THE inhabitants of theſe hills acknowledge allegiance to a vaſſal of the *Burdy Rajah's*, who reſides at *Budderry*, a village ſituated four coſs weſt of *Udgegoor*. His name is BUDHOO; and he has a *Jagheer* of twelve villages, in conſideration of his bringing to the aſſiſtance of the *Burdy Rajah* fifty men in time of warfare. The *Karwars* are divided into many ſects, among which the following were named to me, viz. the *Pautbundies*, the *Teerwars*, the *Seſahars*, and *Durkwars*. There were no villages, and few inhabitants, in that ſpace of country to the eaſtward, which lay between my track and the river *Soane;* but to the weſtward, a few villages were ſaid to be ſituated, of which little account was made; for the inhabitants, who are fond of a roving life, are continually changing the places of their abode. The *Bejool* river riſes in the diſtricts of *Purrury* and *Gundwally*. In the former is a large town, bearing the ſame name, ſituated about twenty-five coſs ſouth-weſt of *Udgegoor*.

IN the courſe of my inquiries into the ſtate of this wild country, my attention was occaſionally directed to the language of the mountaineers, which induced me to collect a ſmall ſpecimen of it; but as the only method I had of acquiring this, was by pointing to the object of which I required the name, the following were the only words which, after much pains, I could collect:

ENGLISH.	KARWARS.
Food, - - -	*Gopuckney.*
To ſit down, - -	*Goburro,*
Salt, - - -	*Minka,*
A Goat, - - -	*Chargur,*
Fire, - - -	*Uggundewtah,*
A Tiger, - -	*Kerona,*
A Hut, - - -	*Mujjarah,*

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ENGLISH.		KARWARS.
A Horſe,	- - -	*Chekut,*
The Moon,	- - -	*Chadermah*
The Sun,	- - -	*Soorjundewtah.*

Our proviſions being nearly conſumed, it was with much ſatisfaction that I underſtood our next day's journey would bring us to a village in the territory of the *Singrowla Rajah;* where, if the inhabitants did not abandon it, we ſhould be abundantly ſupplied with grain.

Feb. 9th. We had not advanced far on our march, when we perceived the *Bickery* Hills, which were the largeſt I had ſeen ſince leaving *Kimoor-gaut:* I was informed that they extended to *Gyah*, and that *Bidjyghur** is viſible from their ſummits on a clear day. After ſkirting along the eaſt ſide of theſe hills for about five miles, we paſſed through them at a narrow defile, called *Bulgaut*, and then entered upon the *Singrowla Rajah's* territory. The country now opened into an extenſive plain, though ſtill wild, and uncultivated. We ſtopped at the village of *Oury*, the inhabitants of which are mountaineers. Allahad Mhatoe, a vaſſal to the *Singrowla Rajah*, was in charge of this place, and of the paſs we had come through. It was not till four hours after our arrival, that we procured a ſupply of grain, although much courteſy had been uſed to obtain it; for the inhabitants having fled on our approach, it was with difficulty they could be prevailed on to return to their dwellings: this, however, they all did before night.

Feb. 10th. We proceeded in a plain, about ten miles wide, but covered with a foreſt, and very wild. As we drew near to the village of *Gurſery*, the country

* A ſtrong hill fort, ſituated about forty miles S. S. E. from *Chunarghur.*

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country opened, and appeared cultivated. This village confifted of about fifty huts, and here we procured grain in abundance.

FEB. 11th. THIS day we arrived at *Shawpour*, where the *Rajah* of *Singrowla* refides. The firft part of our road was through a level country, cultivated near the villages, but beyond half a mile from the road entirely wafte. The laft three miles were through a thick foreft, in which were two or three narrow defiles, between high banks of earth, and fenced on each fide with bamboos.

SHAWPOUR, the capital of *Singrowla*, is fituated in a fine plain, amidft lofty ranges of hills. It is a large ftraggling town, with a little fort, built of rubble-ftone and mud, to which, at this time, the *Rajah* was making fome improvements. The *Rhair*, a confiderable river, runs by the fouth fide of the town. The ftream, which is about one hundred yards wide, and four feet in depth, dafhes with great rapidity over a bed of rock. Nothing but the rocks, indeed, prevent its being navigable for large boats. This river rifes in the hills and forefts of *Surgooja*, and after being joined by the *Bijool* and *Gutaun*, falls into the *Soane* near *Agowry*. The plain in which *Shawpour* is fituated, is tolerably fertile, and only wants inhabitants, and a good government, to render it more productive. Iron abounds in *Singrowla*, the value being from eight *annas* to a *rupee* the *maund*,* according to the quality of the metal.

THE inhabitants of this town, alarmed at the fight of the Englifh fepoys, whom they now beheld for the firft time, had moft of them fled on our arrival; and by night the *Rajah's* capital was almoft deferted. When

* The *maund* of Hindooftan is a weight of about eighty pounds.

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the camp was pitched, I ſent a meſſenger to the fort, with a letter which Mr. DUNCAN had kindly favoured me with, recommending me ſtrongly to the *Rajah's* care. In about a quarter of an hour he returned, to inform me, that the *Rajah* was abſent, being gone to *Ramghur*, to bring home the daughter of the *Chittra Rajah*, to whom he had been eſpouſed. BULBUDDER SHAW, his uncle, then took charge of the letter, and diſpatched it to his nephew, whoſe return was ſoon expected. Towards the evening a meſſage was ſent to me, requeſting that I would not move from *Shawpour* until the *Rajah* ſhould arrive; for that no ſteps could be taken to aſſiſt me until the *Rajah* himſelf ſhould have arrived, and received from my own hand a *paun*,* as a pledge of amity. To this I anſwered, that I hoped the *Rajah's* return would not long be delayed, for that it would be very inconvenient to me to wait beyond two or three days.

FEB. 12th. This morning ſome matchlockmen came in from all quarters, and aſſembled in the fort, and I ſoon after learned that the *Rajah* was expected to arrive about noon. He had ſent a meſſage to BULBUDDER SHAW, to deſire he would meet him, with all the people he could collect, near the entrance of the town; with a view, no doubt, to impreſs me with an idea of his conſequence, by the number of his retinue. But the alarm which my arrival had created, had almoſt fruſtrated their intentions, and not more than fifty perſons could be collected. About noon the ſound of *tom-toms* announced the approach of RAJAH AJEET SING; and ſoon after, with my teleſcope, I beheld the whole cavalcade. The bridegroom, mounted on an elephant, was followed by the bride in a covered *dooly*; and about two hundred men carried the dowry he had received on his

* The cuſtom of preſenting *paun*, or *beetle*, is univerſal throughout Hindooſtan. This ceremony, and that of the interchange of turbans, are conſidered as high pledges of friendſhip.

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his marriage. The party had no fooner arrived at the fort, than it was made known to me that the *Rajah* intended to vifit me that evening.

I HAD already, in confequence of the rapidity of the *Rajah's* return, and the number of men who had affembled in the fort, begun to entertain fome fufpicion of his being alarmed. His deportment fhewed that this fuppofition was not unfounded; for he had no fooner entered my tent, and mutual falutations were over, than he earneftly folicited a *paun* from my hand, as a pledge of amity, and token of my good intentions towards him. Having prefented him a *paun*, I immediately informed him that I had been deputed by the Britifh Government on fome bufinefs in the *Mahratta* country, and had accordingly taken my route through his country to *Ruttunpour*. He appeared on this to be relieved from a good deal of embarraffment. I next made fome inquiry as to the journey he had juft terminated, and congratulated him on the event of his marriage. Having reprefented to him that my bufinefs was urgent, and would admit of no delay, I told him that we were in want of provifions, and guides, for which I was ready to pay an equitable price; and that I looked up to him for every affiftance he could render me, in profecuting my journey through his territory to the *Corair Rajah's* frontier. To thefe requifitions he feemed to affent; and, after affuring me that every thing fhould be prepared for my departure in the courfe of the enfuing day, he took his leave, and returned to his dwelling.

FEB. 13th. THIS morning about nine o'clock AJEET SING came again to vifit me. At the fame time two of my *Hircarrahs* came, and reported to me, that no preparations were making to enable me to proceed on the following day; which being immediately communicated to the *Rajah*, and his people, a *Brahmen* was foon after introduced to me, by name SHALIKRAM,

who

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who was the *Zemindar* of that part of *Singrowla* through which my route would lie. AJEET SING then informed me, that he had given him orders to accompany us to the frontier of *Corair;* and being upon good terms with the *Rajah* of that country, he had written to him, recommending me ſtrongly to his care and attention. He added, that I need be under no apprehenſion about taking grain and guides from *Shawpour*, as SHALIKRAM would ſee that I ſhould be abundantly ſupplied on the way, and would procure guides from the villages. This matter being adjuſted, I was next made acquainted with all the little jealouſies and diſputes that ſubſiſted beteen AJEET SING and all the neighbouring *Rajahs*, but which I declined having any concern with. The next ſubject of diſcourſe was the nature of the country before us, and the difficulty of the road was repreſented to me as inſurmountable; added to which, the Mahrattas being at variance with the *Rajah* of *Corair*, and the country conſequently in confuſion, I ſhould be diſtreſſed both for guides and proviſions. To this information I replied, that what he repreſented to me might be ſtrictly true; but that the nature of my buſineſs was ſuch, that I could not relinquiſh it before I had made every attempt to accompliſh it; and finally, that it was my determination to depart from *Shawpour* the next day. Here the interview ended, and the *Rajah* took his leave.

FEB. 14th. IN the morning I departed, accompanied by SHALIKRAM, and we proceeded about ſix coſs to the village of *Cuttoly*, near which we encamped, on the banks of the *Myar* river. The clear froſty weather had now left us, and the ſky was overcaſt, and ſeemed to threaten rain. Towards the evening, SHALIKRAM, who had gone into the village, ſent us about ten *ſeers* of grain, which were tendered for ſale at an enormous price. Upon inquiring of him the reaſon of our not being better ſupplied, he made many frivolous excuſes; but I then diſcovered that the real

cauſe

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caufe originated with the *Rajah*, who being chagrined at my determination to proceed, and having expected, from the unfavourable defcription he had given me of the road and country, that I fhould have been induced to return to *Benares*, had refolved to cut off our fupplies of grain.

FEB. 15th. WE proceeded to the village of *Deykah*, fituated clofe under fome very high hills. In its vicinity were feveral other villages; and the country, to a confiderable extent, was in a high ftate of cultivation. I was much vexed to find that SHALIKRAM fhewed a determined intention of carrying into effect the *Rajah's* defigns; for, although the village was full of grain, the people would not fell us a particle. As my people were now becoming clamorous for want of food, I fent for SHALIKRAM, and told him, that it was my determination to have fifteen days provifions from the village before I left it. He appeared to be fomewhat perplexed at this; but knowing that he had driven away the inhabitants from the village, he yet conceived that I would not venture to touch the property in it during the abfence of the proprietors, and without their confent. But to be ftarved in a land of plenty, by his fhallow devices, would have been abfurd in the extreme; fo I took him with a party of my people to the village, and went directly to a large hut, which was pointed out to me as a granary, but which he declared contained no grain. On opening the door, we perceived many large jars of unbaked earth, the mouths of which being clofed, we could not fee what they contained, until the preffing appetite of a hungry fepoy urged him to break one of the jars with the butt end of his mufket; when immediately a quantity of the fineft rice tumbled out upon our feet. The difcovery of fo palpable a cheat fully convinced me of the *Rajah's* evil intentions, and that no further reliance was to be put in SHALIKRAM. Finding now fome weights and fcales in the hut, we proceeded without further delay to weigh fifty *maunds* of

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rice and *gram*, equal to about ten days conſumption; for which I paid SHALIKRAM at the rate of twenty-five *ſeers* the rupee, which was ſixty per cent. dearer than we had paid for grain at *Shawpour*. He received the money in the moſt ſullen manner, apparently highly diſcontented at the diſcovery we had made.

FEB. 16th. IT was neceſſary to halt this day, in order to divide and pack the grain, as well as to deviſe the means of carrying it. While my people were thus employed, I diſcovered that ſome *Hindoo* temples, called *Rowanmarra*, of great antiquity, and formed in the ſolid rock, were at no great diſtance.* But the weather proving rainy, I was obliged to defer my viſit to this place until the afternoon; when I ſet out, and proceeding about half a mile through a thick foreſt, arrived at the village of *Marra*, near to which is a ſmall rocky hill, covered with many little temples, ſacred to MAHADEO. I continued to force my way through the jungle, for about a mile and a half, to a little receſs at the foot of the hills; where, after clambering to a conſiderable height, I diſcovered a Hindoo temple, formed in the ſide of a rock, the baſe of which was 50 feet by 45, and 15½ in height. The ſhafts of the pillars were very much diminiſhed, and appeared as if attempts had been made to deſtroy them. The only *Mooruts* (images) which I could diſcover were RAWUN,† with twenty arms, a ſpear in one of his left hands, ſurrounded by all his warriors and attendants, whoſe conteſt with RAMA is detailed in the *Mahabarat*. Oppoſite to him was the conſort of SIVA, whoſe leading name in this part of India is BHA'VA'NI; and upon her right hand ſtood GANEISH, the *Hindoo* God

* Theſe temples appeared to anſwer to the deſcription of a place which Mr. Duncan and Lieutenant Wilford had, previous to my leaving *Benares*, mentioned to me as worthy of my attention, and which they diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Gupt Cáchi*. I cannot, however, pretend to determine whether it was the ſame place.

† Hindoo Deity.

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God of Wifdom, whofe elephant's head, the fymbol of fagacity, we could not fail of difcerning. In the interior part of the temple was a cell, evidently fet apart for MAHADEO; but the *lingam* was not there, although the place where it had formerly ftood was vifible. Other cells on each fide appeared, which feemed to be the abodes of numerous bats. To the north-weft of this temple is another of lefs dimenfions, and between the two is a cell, which had been evidently intended for the refidence of a *fakeer*. On the way from the village of *Marra*, I croffed a fpring that iffues from the neighbouring hills, and, my guide informed me, flows all the year.

HAVING taken a fketch of this very curious place, I departed in fearch of another, called *Beyer-marra*, nearer to *Deykah*, and fituated on the north fide of the rock and village of *Marra*. The accefs to it lay between two very high hills; and it was with infinite labour that we clambered over the rocks, and forced our way through the jungle that led to it. We had no fooner arived within fight of the place, than our guide advifed us to proceed with caution, for it was oftentimes the abode of bears, and wild hogs: we did not, however, meet with any. This temple is cut out of the folid rock in the fide of a hill, and confifts of two ftories, divided into many fmall cells. We faw here no images; but there was a *Kulfa*, or kind of altar, upon which I was informed the Hindoos made their offerings to the Deity when married. It appeared to be very aged, for the external parts of it were much wafted. This place was fo full of earth, and overgrown with bufhes, that it was with difficulty we crept in; and I was difappointed in every attempt I made to difcover any writing or infcription. Some of the pillars had been fculptured; and I could perceive on one of them the appearance of two birds uniting their bills, over fomething which I could not well make out; but it was of a circular form.

THE

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The meaſurements, and a ſketch, which I took of this place, employed me till near the cloſe of the day; when we directed our way back to camp, where I arrived about ſeven o'clock in the evening, much fatigued with the occupations of the day. But I had barely reſted myſelf a little, and ſat down to my dinner, when a man, who had gone a little way into the jungle, came running to me, and reported, that he had diſcovered a body of armed men in a ravine within fifty yards of our camp. That upon his inquiring of them the cauſe of their being there, he had been ordered in a very premptory manner to depart, and had thought it expedient to report the circumſtance to me with as little delay as poſſible. Having finiſhed my meal, I ordered the tents to be removed, from the ſkirts of the jungle, to an open ſituation; and ſending then for Shalikram, I demanded of him the cauſe of the armed men being aſſembled, and who they were. He told me they were the advanced guard of *Bulbudder Shaw's* army, which had left *Shawpour*, the day after us, upon an expedition to plunder ſome villages contiguous to the *Rajah's* eaſtern frontier. I obſerved to him, that their being poſted ſo near us had a very myſterious appearance; and told him, that if I obſerved them approach any nearer during the night, I ſhould not heſitate to attack them. He deſired me to reſt perfectly ſatisfied that they would remain quiet in their preſent ſituation, and departed apparently with the intention of giving them a caution on that head.

After the duplicity the *Rajah* had ſhewn in endeavouring to impede my progreſs, I conceived that any thing Shalikram might ſay, or do, could not be relied on; and by the intelligence I gained from an *Hirkarrah*, whom I had ſent diſguiſed to watch the motions of the armed party in the ravine, I had every reaſon to believe that it was their intention to attack me on the firſt favourable opportunity. We lay down, therefore, under

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under arms, with our baggage packed; but nothing occurred to diſturb us during the night.

FEB. 17th. WE proceeded this day to the village of *Derry*. The foreſt during the march was ſo thick, that it was neceſſary to cut it, to let the cattle paſs through. We found, however, a clear ſpot to encamp in near the village, which conſiſted only of about twenty poor huts, and, with the exception of a blind old man, who was the firſt of the *Goand* mountaineers I met with, was quite deſolate. The inhabitants had all fled into the hills and wilds; having firſt thrown their property, conſiſting of a good deal of dry grain, and ſome cotton, into a ravine. I would not allow any of my people to touch it, nor to go into the village; having ſome hopes that the proprietors might be induced to return. But in this expectation I was diſappointed; for, with the exception of two huge black bears, whoſe uncouth dalliance upon an adjoining rock might have forced a ſmile from the graveſt countenance, I ſaw no living creature at this place during the remainder of the day.

SHALIKRAM, who arrived about noon, brought intelligence, that *Bulbudder Shaw* was encamped at *Moory;* and that it was his intention to attack and plunder ſome villages on the enſuing night. Upon interrogating him as to the nature of my next day's journey, he informed me, that I ſhould quit the territory of the *Singrowla Rajah*, and enter upon *Corair*. He adviſed me to examine the gauts which divide the two countries; for the mountains being very high, and the aſcent over them exceedingly difficult, he apprehended they might prove impaſſable for our cattle. Upon urging him to give a more explicit account of the paſſes, I found that one would be eaſier of aſcent than the reſt, although the road to it was more circuitous. SHALIKRAM now requeſted his diſmiſſal,

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and ſaid, that, as I ſhould quit the *Rajah's* territory the enſuing day, I ſhould have no further occaſion for his ſervices. Having then delivered to me two men as guides, to direct me to the gauts, he took his leave and departed.

As any delay in my preſent ſituation might be attended with inconvenience, I reſolved to viſit the neareſt gaut of *Punkyputter*, this evening, with a view to aſcertain if it was paſſable for the cattle. Setting out accordingly at three P. M. I croſſed the *Myar* river four times, and leaving it, with a very lofty rock, called *Lilcauntdeo*, on my right hand, I entered the gaut, where, after aſcending over ſix ranges of hills, and croſſing the beds of ſeveral torrents, I ſaw enough to convince me that it would be impaſſable for my cattle. The bed of the *Myar* river is very rocky, and unequal in its depth of water, which in ſome places, from the deſcent being very abrupt, is ſeen daſhing over the rocks; and as the friction occaſioned by the rapidity of the ſtream makes them very ſlippery, the paſſage of the river, though not more than twenty yards wide, is very dangerous. This gaut is at leaſt eight miles from *Derry*. Fine *Saul* timber is produced in theſe foreſts; and I obſerved ſome *Mowa* trees of very large growth, and abundance of bamboos. The hills abound with very plentiful ſprings of the cleareſt water. On my return I met a tiger, and ſaw numerous impreſſions of tigers' feet. It was nearly dark by the time I reached my tent, and I went to reſt with the intention of going round in the morning to the other gaut.

FEB. 19. WE ſet off at the dawn of day, and, after proceeding about ſix miles through a very thick jungle, arrived at the village of *Jeerah*, from which the *Goands* had fled, and taken refuge upon the hills to the northward of the village. By looking with attention, I could diſcern them among the rocks and buſhes; but all our endeavours to procure any

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any communication with them were ineffectual; for when we attempted to approach them, they immediately retired further into the wilds. After leaving *Jeerah*, we ſoon came to the foot of *Heyte Gaut*, where the ſound of human voices apprized us that travellers were near. The ſound increaſing as we advanced, we ſoon after met two men, who were conducting a loaded bullock down the *gaut*. As I was here conſidering by what method we ſhould get the cattle up a very ſteep place, and looking around for a more acceſſible part, I perceived a *Gooſaign* contemplating, with trembling ſolicitude, a poor bullock that had fallen down the ſteep, and which appeared to be too much hurt to be able to proceed any further. I made my people aſſiſt in taking off the load, and then interrogated the *Gooſaign*, as to the nature of the country above the *gaut*. He ſaid the natives were mountaineers, and at all times very ſhy; but that the depredations of the *Mahrattas* had compelled them moſtly to abandon their villages: that in the village above the *gaut*, I ſhould find a few inhabitants; and he would ſend a man, who had accompanied him from thence, to guide us to it, and who would deſire the people to be under no alarm at our approach. He further told me, that a little way up the *gaut*, I ſhould meet with another *Gooſaign*, who was better acquainted with the country than he was, and would give me every information in his power. This was a pleaſing circumſtance, and gave me great encouragement.

As I began now to aſcend the mountains of *Corair*, it was with vaſt ſatisfaction that I found the *gaut* practicable, although labouring under many difficulties, from the great length and ſteep acclivity of the aſcent. We aſcended more than 300 yards in perpendicular height above *Singrowla*; and yet the country before us appeared conſiderably elevated. On approaching the village of *Ootna*, where we encamped, the inhabitants, to the number of about twenty, came out

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out to gaze at us. As they appeared to be impreſſed with a good deal of ſurprize at our appearance, I deſired the guide to aſſure them, that it was not our intention to do them the ſmalleſt injury; but that we ſhould be much obliged to them, in caſe they had any grain, if they would bring ſome for ſale. After ſtaring at us for nearly two hours, they retired to the village, and ſoon after brought us twenty *ſeers* of rice, and two fowls of the curled feather tribe, which they ſold us for about four *annas* worth of *cowries*. They now informed me, that we had a much more difficult aſcent to encounter than any we had yet met with.

THIS village conſiſted only of about ſix huts; but a conſiderable ſpace of land, in which rice was cultivated, had been cleared around it. I found here an iron mine, which had been recently worked; but the habitations, and forges, of the people, who had ſmelted the ore, were deſolate. The rocks in this country are moſtly granite, and the ſoil red clay.

ABOUT noon I perceived the other *Gooſaign* coming down the paſs, and he ſoon after came to my tent. As he appeared to be very languid from an ague fit that had juſt left him, I made him ſit down on the ground; and collected from him intelligence which proved afterwards of much uſe to me, in my progreſs to *Ruttunpour*. He told me that the country was very poor, and travelling in it exceedingly difficult, particularly for all kinds of cattle. That the paths being rarely frequented, were almoſt entirely overgrown with buſhes; but that I ſhould get plenty of dry grain, provided the inhabitants, who had lately fled with their property into the hills and woods, to avoid being plundered by the *Mahratta* army, could be found. The *Rajah* of *Corair*, he ſaid, was beſieged in a little mud fort at his capital *Sonehut*; and had, at this time, no influence in

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in the country: he therefore earneſtly recommended to me to paſs, if poſſible, while the *Mahratta* army was there; as it would effectually ſecure me from any meaſures which the *Rajah* might be inclined to make uſe of, to impede or moleſt us. I felt myſelf much obliged to the *Gooſaign* for the information he had afforded me. He was, I found, a native of *Benares*, and had come into theſe wilds to procure lac; a quantity of which he had purchaſed from the *Chohan* mountaineers, for a little ſalt and cloth, and was carrying it to his country. He added, that the fatigue and trouble he had endured in the courſe of this traffic, was ſuch that he would no longer continue it.

Having diſmiſſed the *Gooſaign* with a ſmall preſent, I ſent a party of my people to examine *Ootna gaut*. They returned in about half an hour, and reported, that, unleſs the ſtones ſhould be removed, and the earth ſmoothed in ſome places, it would be impoſſible to get the cattle up the gaut. Finding it was likely to be an arduous undertaking, I ſent for the head man of the village, who was a *Gautea*,* and aſked him if he could afford me any aſſiſtance in aſcending the paſs. He replied, that, without invoking the Deity who preſides over theſe mountains, and ſacrificing to him a gelded goat, and a cock, we ſhould never be able to ſurmount the difficulties before us. Being anxious, at all events, to proſecute my journey, I felt no inclination to argue with him on the propriety of this meaſure. Upon aſking him at what place it was uſual to perform the ceremony, and when the ſacrifice would be moſt acceptable; he replied, that the name of the Deity was Lilcauntdeo; that he reſided on the high rock which I have before mentioned in exploring *Punkyputter gaut*; but, to prevent my being delayed, if I would intruſt the ſacrifice to him, he would take the

* An inhabitant of the gauts, or paſſes.

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the earlieſt opportunity of performing it; and he did not doubt, it would have all the effect that could be deſired. Having ſatisfied the *Gautea's* prejudice in this matter, he readily promiſed to render me every aſſiſtance in his power, with the villagers, in the morning.

Feb. 20th. I ſet out to aſcend *Ootna gaut*, and, after proceeding about a mile, arrived at the foot of it; where I found the *Chohans* had already been at work, with my *laſcars* and *coolies*, to render it acceſſible. Having unloaded the cattle, we began to aſcend a very ſteep and rugged hill, making an angle with the horizon of about 75 degrees. The ſtones in it are placed ſomewhat like ſteps, and upon theſe, men, and cattle, are obliged carefully to place their feet, and remove them from ſtone to ſtone. In two places, where the aſcent was very ſteep, and the ſtones far aſunder, it was very dangerous; but by the united exertions of the *ſepoys*, followers, and *Chohans*, we had the good fortune to ſurmount every difficulty, and to reach the top of the *gaut* without accident. Being much fatigued by the exertion, we only proceeded about two miles further, and encamped in the foreſt near a rocky hole in a ſmall *nulla*, that was full of water. The *Chohans*, who, during our ſhort intercourſe with them, had become acquainted with us, now brought in ſmall quantities of grain to barter; and I at length prevailed on the *Gautea* to provide us with two guides, to accompany us on the following morning.

Feb. 21ſt. Our route this day was continued over craggy rocks; ſometimes in deep gulleys and defiles, or on the edge of the precipices. I met with only one hut, which had been deſerted, until we arrived at the village of *Nutwye*, where I perceived the inhabitants packing up their property, and hurrying away: nor was it till after three hours had paſſed in endeavours to pacify them, that we could get any of them to come near us.

However

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However, conciliatory meaſures at length prevailed; when we procured from them nearly a day's conſumption in grain, and they relieved the guides who had accompanied us from *Ootna*.

FEB. 22d. THE road was not better than that we had travelled on the preceding day; and it coſt us infinite labour and trouble to get the cattle down precipices, and over ſuch craggy rocks, and rugged paths, as haraſſed the whole party exceedingly. After proceeding about three miles from *Nutwye*, I obſerved the little hamlet of *Bugrody*, which was deſolate, on our left. Although the whole diſtance marched was but ſeven miles, we did not arrive at the village of *Chundah* until the day was on the decline. We found here only two poor huts, and theſe had been deſerted. Towards the evening, a *Byraggy* mendicant made his appearance, and brought with him a few of the *Chohans*, who complained that ſome of my people had taken grain out of the huts. I directed a diligent ſearch to be made; but after opening every man's bundle, and not diſcovering the thief, I tendered the *Chohans* a *rupee*, conceiving that the quantity of grain, if any, which had been taken, could not exceed that value. They, however, declined taking the money. I then preſſed them to ſell us ſome of their grain, and to relieve our guides; but they ſtole away into the woods, and I ſaw them no more.

FEB. 23d. SOON after leaving *Chundah*, it began to rain in ſmall ſhowers, but the weather was fair at intervals. In the night the rain had fallen very heavy, accompanied by a high wind: the road, which was bad enough in dry weather, was, in conſequence, rendered ſo ſlippery, that our toil was conſiderably increaſed; and we did not reach the village of *Purryhud* till afternoon; although the diſtance to that place was not more than ſeven miles and a half. We ſurprized on our journey a party of *Chohans*, who had

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taken refuge in a recess among the hills, in order, as we were told, to avoid being molested by the *Mahrattas*. The whole party might have consisted of about fifty men, women, and children, who no sooner perceived us, than they ran off, howling and shrieking, into the woods. Their flight was so precipitate, that they left all their property behind them, which consisting only of dry grain, packed in leaves, and which being flung upon bamboos, they could easily have carried off. I was careful, that none of their bundles should be touched, in hopes that, when they should recover from their panic, they might be induced to bring some of the grain to *Purryhud* for sale; but in this expectation I was disappointed.

The rain, on our arrival, came on so heavy, accompanied by a high wind, that it was with difficulty we could get a fire kindled, and a scanty meal prepared, to relieve the pressure of hunger. As any information regarding the situation of the contending parties at *Sonehut*, now only five miles distant, became of much consequence for me to attain, I sent a *Hirkarrah*, accompanied by one of our *Chohan* guides, with a letter to the *Mahratta* officer in command, and likewise one to the *Rajah*. Before night, I received an answer from each party; that from the *Mahrattas* very civil; and the *Rajah*, who had just concluded a cessation of hostilities, sent guides to conduct me to *Sonehut*.

Feb. 24th. The rain did not abate till about noon, at which time, being anxious to reach *Sonehut*, I moved on. But we had scarcely marched two miles, when it began to pour so heavily, that it was with difficulty we could proceed any further. Finding some deserted huts within a mile of *Sonehut*, we all crept into them, to avoid the inclemency of the weather; for the ground was so wet, that it was impossible to pitch

a tent.

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a tent. We made fires to dry our cloaths, and remained all huddled together in the *Chohan's* dwellings until next day.

Feb. 25th. This morning, as the weather cleared up, I discovered the *Rajah's* fort upon an eminence to the N. E. of us, with about forty huts to the southward of it. The *Mahrattas* were encamped about a mile to the westward of the fort, and appeared to have been much incommoded by the rain; but the weather being now fair, and hostilities at an end, they were preparing to march.

About 2 P. M. the *Rajah* sent me word that he would visit me; but he did not come until the evening, at which time I was examining the road for the commencement of our next day's march. However, he stayed till I returned to my tent, where the interview took place. Ram Gurreeb Sing, the *Rajah* of *Corair*, appeared to be about sixty years of age: he was a man of low stature, very dark, and his features had quite the character of the *Chohan* mountaineer. He came accompanied by his son, his *Killadar*, a *Bogale Rajepoot*, and a *Sirdar* of some auxiliaries who had come to his assistance from *Nigwanny Coaty*. He appeared to be of a mild and affable disposition; but our salutations were no sooner over, than the *Killadar* very abruptly demanded a present of me for his master. Of this I took no notice; and immediately began asking them a variety of questions concerning the late contest between the *Rajah* and the *Mahrattas*; when the substance of the information I received was as follows: That since the *Mahrattas* had established their government in *Ruttunpoor*, and *Bogalecund*, they had demanded a tribute from the *Chohan Rajah* of *Corair*, which, after much contention, was settled at 200 *rupees*: but that Ram Gurreeb had demurred paying any thing for the last five years. Golaub Khan had, in consequence, been deputed by the *Subadar* of *Cho-*

 teesgur,

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teesgur, with about 200 matchlockmen, and 30 horse, to levy the tribúte due to the *Rajah* of *Berar*; and had been joined by the *Rájah* of *Surgooja*, with about 80 horse and foot. GURREEB SING, on his side, had been supported by the *Rajah* of *Ningwanny Coaty*, with 7 matchlocks, and 3 horsemen; and his own forces amounted only to 10 matchlockmen, 3 horsemen, and about 100 of the *Chohan* mountaineers, armed with hatchets, bows, and arrows. They had attempted to fortify the pass through which they expected the *Mahrattas* would have entered their territory; but GOLAUB KHAN *outgeneralled* them, by entering *Corair* through a different opening in the mountains; in the forcing of which, there had been four or five men killed on both sides. The *Mahrattas* then entered *Corair*, and took possession of *Mirzapour*, the ancient capital of the country. Upon this the *Chohans* fled; the *Rajah* took refuge in his fort; and the mountaineers obscured themselves, with their families, and as much of their property as they had time to carry off, in the most impenetrable parts of the woods, and in caves among the hills and rocks. The enemy then ravaged the country, and burned the villages, which very much distressed the *Rajah's* subjects; whereupon they supplicated him to make peace. A treaty was begun, and concluded, on his stipulating to pay the *Mahrattas* 2000 rupees; and the *Mahrattas* agreed to return some cattle which they had taken. I was well informed that this sum was considered merely in the light of a nominal tribute, or acknowledgment of submission; for the *Rajah* had it not in his power to pay one rupee; and the *Mahrattas* had agreed to let him off, on his giving them five small horses, three bullocks, and a female buffalo. This little recital being ended, I put some questions to the *Killadar* (who appeared to be by far the most intelligent man among them) relative to the climate and productions of *Corair*. He related, that they never experience any hot winds; but from the frequent rains that fall, the

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the air is cool, and throughout the year a covering at night is neceſſary. He alledged, that he was not a native of *Corair*, having emigrated from *Rewah*, in *Bogalecund*; and that the change of water had diſagreed with him, which was uſually the caſe with all new comers. He added, that the country produced a little rice, Indian corn, and a few other ſmaller grains, peculiar to hilly countries. Being very much gratified with his unreſerved replies to my interrogatories, I took this opportunity of preſenting the *Rajah*'s ſon (a lad of ten years of age) with a red turban, which being bound on his head, he ſo far exceeded in the gaiety of his appearance any of the people about him, that the old *Rajah* ſeemed to behold him with delight, and ſoon after departed, promiſing to ſend me two guides before night.

FEB. 26. We departed from *Sonehut*, when I was much pleaſed to find a better road, and more open country, than any I had met with ſince our departure from *Chunarghur*. The villages were, however, ſtill very poor, not conſiſting of more than four or five huts each. The guides expreſſed much dread in paſſing the deſerted village of *Cutchar*, where the tigers had, but a few days before, carried off ſome people, which had ſo alarmed the villagers, that they had all fled. On paſſing the village of *Cooſahar*, I obſerved a very fine ſpring, called *Darahcoond*, from which there iſſued a conſiderable quantity of water. We encamped this day upon a rocky eminence, near the little village of *Loveejay*; where, as the *Mahrattas* had now retreated, the inhabitants were buſily employed in bringing back their property, and taking poſſeſſion of their dwellings. The weather was ſtill cloudy, and the air temperate.

THERE is abundance of game throughout the whole of *Corair*, conſiſting in partridges, quails of various kinds, and ſnipes; a few wild ducks, and hares in

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great numbers; a great variety of deer, among which the *Sambre* and *Neelgaye* are found; a kind of red deer; the ſpotted kind, and hog deer; likewiſe a ſpecies of deer which I had never before met with, having a long neck, high fore legs, and low behind; but without horns. Some were of a grey colour, and others black and white. Among the animals of a more ferocious nature, may be reckoned the royal tiger, leopards, tiger cats, and large black bears.

FEB. 27th. MY journey again continued through the thickeſt foreſts. I deſcended two very difficult paſſes into a pretty little valley, on the weſt ſide of which is ſituated the village of *Mirzapour*, which had formerly been the capital of *Corair*, and the reſidence of ADEL SHAW, the father of GURREEB SING. It was deſolate, excepting two or three *Chohans*, who had come to ſee what loſs the village had ſuſtained, and how much of their property the *Mahrattas* might have ſpared; for we, who had followed them in their retreat, could, from the quantity of dry grain, and other plunder, which they had dropped upon the road, perceive that they had loaded themſelves to the utmoſt. With the exception of a ſquare tank and a mangoe grove at *Mirzapour*, I could perceive but little difference between it and the other rude and miſerable dwellings of the *Chohans*. I was informed that the motive which had induced the preſent *Rajah* to remove his abode from where his anceſtors had always reſided, was to ſecure himſelf from the inroads of the *Mahrattas*; the ſituation of *Sonehut*, which is nearer to the difficult receſſes in the higher parts of *Corair*, being more favorable for concealment.

PREVIOUS to the *Mahrattas* extending their conqueſts into theſe wild regions, the *Rajahs* of *Corair* appear to have lived in perfect independence; and never having been neceſſitated to ſubmit to the payment of any tribute,

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tribute, they had no occafion to opprefs their fubjects. As far as my inquiries could penetrate into the hiftory of this country, but which, from there being no records, muft be liable to great inaccuracy, it appeared that the *Chohans* were the aborigines of *Corair*; and that a fpecies of government, very like the ancient feudal fyftems, had formerly fubfifted.

HAVING proceeded about three miles beyond *Mirzapour*, we came to the village of *Sorrah*, where we found the villagers taking poffeffion of their habitations; but on feeing us, they all fled; nor would they again return to their huts, until we had paffed by. Between *Sorrah* and *Munfook*, where we encamped this day, I obferved feveral narrow valleys that were cultivated with rice. The inequality of the ground making it a receptacle for the water that falls, the natives throw little banks acrofs the valley, of ftrength proportionate to the declivity of the furface, by which contrivance they preferve a fufficient quantity of water for the irrigation of their fields throughout the whole year.

THE village of *Munfook* being defolate, it was fortunate that we had been fo provident as to carry grain. Our guides, who had now accompanied us two days journey, being impatient for their difcharge, we were under the neceffity of preffing a man who had come into the village to fee what remained of his pillaged habitation. He was naked, having nothing about him but his bow and arrows, and appeared at firft a good deal terrified; but on being fed, and treated kindly, he foon became pacified. As the evening approached, we heard a hallooing in the woods, and, after liftening with attention, we found it was the mountaineers inquiring for their loft companion, whom they were feeking with much anxiety. We made him anfwer them, that his perfon was fafe, and that he was well treated; upon which they retired apparently fatisfied.

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FEB. 28. A heavy fall of rain, accompanied with wind, delayed our moving until noon; when we proceeded, and reached *Tuggong*, by half paſt five o'clock. This little hamlet, which conſiſted only of three huts, was deſtitute of forage for our cattle; and our proviſions being alſo expended, and the place deſolate, we had no reſource left, but to march the next day, until we could reach ſome inhabited place; where our very urgent wants could be ſupplied. Our guides having now accompanied us three days, declared they would proceed no further; and the man we had ſurprized, proved ſo wild and untractable, that he was of little or no ſervice. But, to add to our trouble, about three in the morning of the enſuing day, a very heavy ſtorm of wind and rain came on, which laſted with little intermiſſion till noon, ſo that we now became not only hungry, but wet and cold. The weather cleared up about noon, when three men came in from MOOTYLOL, the *Goand Rajah* of *Kurgommah*; the object of whoſe viſit, I found, was to entreat me not to go near his place of reſidence. It was with difficulty I could perſuade them, that the object of our journey, and the nature of our ſituation, was ſuch as to preclude a compliance with their meſſage; but which appearing at length to comprehend, they readily undertook to relieve our guides, and conduct us.

MARCH 1ſt. WE proceeded in the afternoon through a very wet road to *Kurgommah*. The *Goands*, ſeeing us encamp quietly, came out to the number of about fifty to gaze at us. They appeared to be a ſtout well looking people, and in every reſpect ſuperior to the mountaineers of *Corair*. We experienced ſome difficulty in converſing with them; but, after repeated applications, we made them at laſt comprehend, that we were in want of grain; when they informed us, that we could have none till the next day; as it would be neceſſary for me to halt, and ſee MOOTYLOL, before any thing could be afforded us.

MARCH

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March 2d. Rajah Mootylol came to viſit me: he was a tall well-made man, of a very dark complexion, but appeared to have been much reduced by ſickneſs. Another ſick man was with him, whoſe complaint ſeemed to be a leproſy, and who wanted phyſic, and advice; but which I told him I was unable to give him. On my inquiring of them what countries were ſituated contiguous to *Kurgommah*, I was informed, that to the north was *Corair;* to the north-weſt, *Ningwanny Coaty*, and *Bogalecund;* to the weſt, *Pindara*, and *Omercuntuc;* to the ſouth, *Mahtin;* and to the eaſt, *Surgooja*. Theſe countries are all very wild, and thinly inhabited, and are ſeldom or never frequented by any travellers, except the *Hindoo* pilgrims, who go to viſit the ſources of the *Soane* and *Nurbudda* rivers at *Omercuntuc*. The uſual road to this place is by *Ruttunpour;* but the *Brahmens* having been plundered, by the *Pertaubgur Goand Rajah*, of what they had collected from the offerings of the pilgrims, it was at that time little frequented. With much difficulty I procured here a ſcanty ſupply of grain, for which we paid exorbitantly, and prevailed on Mootylol to give us guides to direct us in our next day's journey.

March 3d. Our guides, either from knavery or ignorance, led us repeatedly out of the road, which was over very rugged ground, and through a very wild country. We were in conſequence frequently puzzled to recover the track, and obliged to grope out our way for the firſt five miles; after which it was with much ſatisfaction that we quitted the territory of Mootylol; and, croſſing the river *Huſtoo*, entered upon the *Mahratta's Khaſs Purgunnah* of *Mahtin*. The banks of the river were very rugged and ſteep; and the impreſſions of tigers' feet were viſible in the ſands. On the oppoſite bank ſtood the little village of *Mungora*, in which we found only one family, conſiſting of an old man, his wife, and two ſons;

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the latter of whom very readily relieved our guides, and led us through a wilderneſs to *Cooſgar;* the inhabitants of which were *Goands.* Excepting in the culture of the ſoil, for ſubſiſtence, they appeared to be totally uninformed, and ignorant of every thing relative to other parts of the world. They did not, however, ſhew any ſymptoms of alarm on our approach, as we had commonly experienced among the inhabitants of theſe wild regions. Neither ſilver nor copper coins are current in this country; but cowries were paſſed at a profit of near an hundred per cent. above their common value at *Chunarghur.* With much difficulty we procured here, from the villages, as much grain as ſufficed for the day. The weather proved ſqually, but cleared up at night; and a clear ſky at our ſetting out next morning gave us freſh ſpirits.

MARCH 4th. A little after ſunriſe the ſky was again overcaſt, and as we proceeded we perceived that much rain had fallen in every direction around us. We eſcaped, however, with little; and as we approached to *Julky,* the country appeared leſs overrun with large foreſt trees than that we had travelled through the preceding day; but the road led ſometimes through almoſt impervious thickets of high graſs and reeds. On our arrival at *Julky,* we found a different tribe of mountaineers, who called themſelves *Cowhiers.* Two roads led from this place to *Mahtin;* one, by *Tannaira Cuſſaye* and *Butloo;* another, more circuitous, through the beds of the *Bockye* and *Huſtoo* rivers, *Kurby* and *Bonnair.* In the evening I examined the former, and found it tolerably paſſable as far as *Tannaira;* from which place it appeared to lead into the hills. This village had been recently deſtroyed by fire; and on my inquiring the cauſe from the villagers at *Julky,* they informed me, that the tigers had carried off ſo many of the inhabitants, and had made ſuch devaſtation among their cattle, that they had been induced to abandon it, and to ſettle at

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Julky. A herd of the *Sambre* deer, very wild, had taken up their residence near the remains of the village of *Tannaira*, where we saw likewise abundance of green pigeons and peacocks.

Finding the road thus far good, I had determined to proceed by this route to *Mahtin;* but the *Cowhiers* dissuaded me from it; alledging, at the same time, that if I pleased, I might attempt it, but that they were convinced it would be impassable in the hilly part for cattle of any description; and that the road was of so difficult a nature, that I could not hope to reach *Mahtin* by night; although the distance was only fifteen miles. To have involved myself in so arduous an attempt, without the prospect of any refreshment, and, after clambering over precipices all day, to have run the risk of being benighted in so wild and desolate a part of the country, would have been highly imprudent; I therefore abandoned the idea, and determined on taking the road by *Kurby*.

March 5th. About an hour before day-light, our route commenced for about a mile in the bed of the *Bockye* river, which led us into the bed of the *Hustoo*, where the stream was considerable, and very rapid. We crossed it twice, but in this we were not so fortunate as in the former, where we had found a hard bottom; for the wetness of the road, and the quicksands in which our cattle were frequently involved, rendered this part of our journey very toilsome and distressing.

We arrived this day at *Pory*, having left some lofty ranges of hills to the westward. At this place a *Cowhier* chief came to visit me; or rather his curiosity brought him to see a white man. He was accompanied by his son, and grandson; both stout and large limbed men for mountaineers, though not so well shaped as the *Goands*. We stared at each other a little while; for our languages being totally unintelligi-

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ble to each other, we could hold no converſation, until a *Byraghy Fakeer*, who had wandered into theſe wilds, tendered his ſervices as interpreter. All that I could collect from this chief was, that in theſe mountains there are ſeven ſmall diſtricts, called *Chowraſſeys;* containing nominally eighty-four villages; but that, in reality, not more than fifteen were then in exiſtence. That they were all conſidered as belonging to the *Purgunnah* of *Mahtin*, and that the tribute they paid to the *Mahratta* Government, which conſiſted in grain, was very inconſiderable. The *Mahrattas* kept it up to retain their authority among the mountaineers; who, if not kept in ſubjection, were conſtantly iſſuing into the plain country to plunder. I inquired of him, if there had ever exiſted a *Cowhier Rajah*, or independant chief of any kind; to which he replied, that the country had formerly been ſubject to the *Rewah Rajah* of *Bogalecund*, and that, about thirty years ſince, the *Mahrattas* had driven him out; having in the conteſt very much impoveriſhed and depopulated the country.

The converſation was carried on under much diſadvantage; for it was evident our interpreter underſtood but imperfectly the language of *Cowhier*. The old man, whoſe attention had been chiefly attracted by a *Ramnaghur Morah*,* of which he was deſirous to know the conſtruction, being ſatisfied as to that point, now took his leave, and departed.

March 6th. This day's journey brought us to *Mahtin*. The road, for the firſt five miles, was one continued aſcent; in ſome parts ſteep; but in others, gradual; till we arrived at the village of *Bunnair*, where we turned to the weſtward, to aſcend the very difficult *gaut* between it and *Mahtin;* which in length is about three miles. At the bottom of it is the little village of *Loungah*, which gives its name to the paſs.
We

* A kind of ſtool, made of wicker work, and cotton thread.

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We had hardly reached the top of the firſt aſcent, when a violent ſquall of wind and rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, broke under us. We were fortunate in eſcaping it; for had it fallen in our track, it would have rendered the road ſo ſlippery as greatly to increaſe the difficulty of the aſcent. We arrived at *Mahtin* about an hour before noon, and encamped on the eaſt bank of the river *Taty*. Near this place (bearing north about one mile diſtant) is a very picturesque mountain, called, by the Cowhiers, *Mahtin Dey*. With my teleſcope I diſcovered a little flag on the ſummit of it; and on inquiring the reaſon, I was informed that it was to denote the reſidence of the *Hindoo* Goddeſs BHAVANI. This day being the *Hooly*,* the mountaineers were celebrating the feſtival, by ſinging, and dancing, in a very rude manner, to the ſound they produced by beating a kind of drum, made with a ſkin ſtretched over an earthern pot. They ſeemed to be totally uninformed as to the origin or meaning of the feſtival; nor was there a *Brahmen* among them, to afford them any information on that ſubject. I am inclined to think that they are a tribe of low *Hindoos*; but being ſo very illiterate, and ſpeaking a dialect peculiar to themſelves, any inquiries into their hiſtory, manners, and religion, would have been little ſatisfactory.

THIS evening we had a good deal of thunder, and the ſky was overcaſt and clear, at intervals, until near midnight; when a violent ſtorm of wind and rain came on from the N. W. accompanied with very large hailſtones. The thunder was very loud and ſhrill, and, being re-echoed by the mountains, the noiſe was tremendous. The ſtorm continued about two hours, when the wind abated; but the clouds came down upon the hills on all ſides, and the rain continued more or leſs violent all the next day.

MARCH

* An Hindoo feſtival at the ſpring.

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March 7th. In the evening the clouds began to aſcend, and the day broke next morning with a clear ſky; but the country being wet, and the *Taty* river quite filled, we were compelled to poſtpone our march.

March 8th. This morning a *Cowhier* came in from *Loſſah*, a village about five *coſe* diſtant, and reported, that cloſe to *Mahtin*, at the bottom of the large hills, he ſaw the mangled bodies of a man and a bullock, who appeared to have been recently killed by tigers. I found, on inquiry, that the traveller was a villager coming with his bullock, loaded with grain, to *Mahtin*, and that the accident happened juſt as he was terminating his journey. Upon aſking the *Cowhiers* if they uſed any means to deſtroy the tigers, they replied, that the wild beaſts were ſo numerous, that they dreaded, if one were to be deſtroyed, the reſt would ſoon be revenged upon them, and upon their cattle; and would undoubtedly depopulate the country. He added, that the inhabitants of *Mahtin* make certain offerings and ſacrifices, at ſtated periods, to Bhavani, on *Mahtin Dey*, for her protection from wild beaſts, upon which they rely for preſervation; and he remarked to me, that the man who had been killed, was not an inhabitant of their village. I could not forbear a ſmile at the credulity of theſe mountaineers.

We had now experienced rain, more or leſs, for twenty-two days; the weather was ſtill cold, but the air, clear and ſharp; and, as far as I could diſcover, the fall of rain was not conſidered as unuſual at this ſeaſon in that part of the country.

From the time that we had entered *Corair*, I had obſerved a great variety of very beautiful flowering ſhrubs, which appeared new to me; but not poſſeſſing ſufficient botanical knowledge to decide to what claſſes of

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of the vegetable ſyſtem they belonged, I endeavoured to collect the ſeeds of each kind; in the hope that, if the change of ſoil and climate ſhould not prove unfavourable, I might enjoy the ſatisfaction of ſeeing them flouriſh in ſome part of the Company's territories.

MARCH 9th. PROCEEDED to *Jattaingah*, a ſhort diſtance; but the rain had made the road ſo bad that we travelled but ſlowly.

MARCH 10th. THE weather fair. Proceeded fourteen miles to *Pory*, a *Byraghy*'s dwelling. We had now ſome reſpite from the difficult aſcents and deſcents we had been accuſtomed to, our road lying in a valley between two high ridges of mountains. At this place I was informed that the ſources of the *Soane* and *Nurbudda* rivers were not more than twenty-two *coſes* diſtant to the weſtward; that they derive their origin from the water that is condenſed, and iſſues from the cavities, in the mountains which form the high table land of *Omercuntuc*. Prior to my commencing this journey, I had pictured to myſelf a great deal of ſatisfaction, in the proſpect of viſiting this place, and in viewing the ſpot where two large rivers, iſſuing from the ſame ſource, purſue their courſes in oppoſite directions, until the one falling into the gulph of *Cambay*, and the other into the *Ganges*, they may be ſaid to inſulate by far the largeſt part of *Hindooſtan*.

THE *Byraghy* at *Pory*, who had been ſomewhat alarmed on our approach, ſeeing us encamp without moleſting him, brought me a preſent of a fowl and two eggs, which I accepted; but being fatigued at the time, I diſmiſſed him, deſiring him to call again in the evening. He came according to appointment, accompanied by two or three *Cowhiers*; and as he had been a great traveller, I found him very converſant

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in

in the *Hindooſtanny* language. I had obſerved his dwelling to be in a ruinous condition; and on aſking him the cauſe of it, he informed me, that about two months before, the *Goands* had come in the night, had carried off all his property, and, after killing as many of the inhabitants as came in their way, had ſet fire to the village; ſince which the inhabitants had only been able to bind a few reeds and ſtraw together, to ſhelter themſelves from the weather. Upon aſking him the cauſe of theſe depredations, he informed me, that ever ſince the *Mahrattas* had attempted to ſubdue the *Pertabgur Goands*, who inhabit the hills to the weſtward of *Ruttunpour*, there had been a continual warfare between them. He added, that the *Goands* were frequently moving about in large bodies, and never failed to commit depredations, and to plunder when opportunities offered; and he concluded by adviſing me to proceed on my journey with caution. I inquired of him if it was practicable to proceed by any route from *Pory* to *Omercuntuc;* to which he replied in the negative; and expreſſed much ſurprize at my wiſhing to go into a country which, he ſaid, was the abode only of wild beaſts, demons, and the ſavage *Goands*.

March 11th. I proceeded about thirteen miles to the little village of *Noaparrah*, conſiſting only of three miſerable huts. It is under the *Purgunnah* of *Cheytma*, which is conſidered a part of *Choteeſgur*. This day one of my camels died with ſymptoms of the hydrophobia; having, for ſome days, been ſo reſtleſs and unruly, that he was continually throwing off his load. I could not eaſily account for this circumſtance, until I recollected that the night before I left *Rajegaut*, near *Benares*, a dog had run into our camp, and bit the animal in the face, as alſo a *Tattoo* in the leg, which had afterwards died in a very unaccountable manner at *Kurgommah*.

MARCH

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MARCH 12th. WE proceeded to *Maudun*, our road ſtill continuing in a narrow valley between high ranges of mountains. On our march this day I had obſerved a few ſpots cleared, on the tops and declivities of the mountains; and I could diſcern here and there, with my teleſcope, a hut, and ſome people quite naked. We likewiſe met with numerous herds of wild buffaloes.

MARCH 13th. WE arrived at *Ruttunpour*, after quitting the mountainous country. This being the capital of *Choteeſgur*, and the reſidence of the *Subadar*, I expected to have found a large town; but, to my great diſappointment, I beheld a large ſtraggling village, conſiſting of about a thouſand huts; a great many of which were deſolate; and even ITTUL PUNDIT the *Subadar's* houſe, which was tiled, and ſituated in the *Bazar*, or market-place, appeared but a poor habitation.

I HAD been furniſhed with a letter, from the *Berar* government, to this chief, which I immediately ſent him along with a copy of my paſs. About noon he ſent his brother to congratulate me on my arrival, who, after our mutual ſalutations were over, inquired by what route I had come to *Ruttunpour*. On my telling him through *Corair*, he expreſſed much ſurprize at our having travelled through ſuch dreary wilds and mountainous paths; and told me, that the *Mahratta* troops always experienced the greateſt inconvenience, when ſent into that country, from the want of proviſions, and always ſuffered much from the badneſs of the water. I had obſerved indeed the *nux vomica* hanging over the rivers and rivulets; which had led me to ſuſpect, that the infuſion of it might produce an irritation in the ſtomach and bowels; but the ſtreams were pure and limpid, and the water not diſagreeable to the taſte. On my aſking him what he conceived to be the cauſe of the deleterious effects of the water on their people, he ſaid, that they

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attributed them to its extreme chill; but this was a quality which I had not been able to diſcover. He next inquired by what route it was my intention to proceed to *Vizagapatam.*—When I mentioned through *Choteeſgur*, and *Buſtar*, to *Jaypour;* he informed me, that I had yet a very mountainous and wild country to penetrate by that road; added to which, the inhabitants being *Goands*, and very ſavage, I might experience ſome trouble from them. I aſked him if the *Mahratta* government was not efficient there; to which he replied, that for the laſt four or five years, the *Rajah* had paid no tribute: that they had never had the entire poſſeſſion of the country; but, by continuing to pillage and haraſs the *Goands*, they had brought the *Rajah* to acknowledge the *Mahratta* government; and to promiſe the payment of an annual tribute. That a few days before, a *vakeel** had arrived from *Buſtar* with 5000 rupees, which at leaſt ſhewed an inclination to be on good terms. He told me, that I ſhould be provided with a letter from the *Ranny*, or widow of the late BEMBAJEE, to the *Conkair Rajah*, whoſe adopted ſon he was. I was further informed, that this *Conkair Rajah* was a *Goand* chief, poſſeſſing a track of hilly country that bounds the ſouthern parts of *Choteeſgur*, and is ſituated between it and the *Buſtar Rajah's* country; who, from his ſituation, would have it in his power to aſſiſt me in the further proſecution of my route through *Buſtar* to *Vizianagram*, where my journey was to terminate.

I HAD now travelled 296 miles, from *Chunar* to *Ruttunpour*, in forty-four days; a ſmall diſtance, comparatively with the length of time; but the difficulty of the roads, and the inclemency of the weather, had, for the laſt twenty days, not only retarded us exceedingly, but our cattle likewiſe had ſuffered ſo much,

* Ambaſſador, or deputy.

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much, and were ſo exhauſted, that a little reſpite from further fatigue was become neceſſary for our welfare.

A variety of intereſting objects now preſented themſelves, on which I was deſirous of acquiring information; the firſt and moſt important of which, was an accurate account of the ſources of the *Nurbuddah* and *Soane* rivers; and of the *Hindoo* pilgrimage to them. Ittul Pundit viſited me in the evening, when I expreſſed to him the ſtrong deſire I felt of proceeding to the ſpot, and inquired as to the nature of the road by which travellers uſually went from *Ruttunpour* to *Omercuntuc*. He gave me nearly the ſame account which I had previouſly received from one of my *Hircarrahs*, who had viſited the place, adding, that the *Goands* were, at this juncture, more powerful than ever, and that no pilgrims had attempted to go there for ſome time. He expreſſed at the ſame time a great deal of aſtoniſhment, and ſome alarm, at what could be my motive for wandering in theſe uncomfortable mountains and wilds. I told him, that the report I had heard of a very large *Hindoo* temple, and many curious images, had excited in me a deſire to viſit them, for magnificent objects in general had that effect upon mankind. To this he ſeemed to aſſent, but obſerved that it would be impracticable; for, if I were to leave my cattle and baggage under his care, and to proceed with my people on foot, which was the only probable method of ſurmounting the wild and rugged roads to *Omercuntuc*, the *Purtaubgur Goand Rajah* would, notwithſtanding, moleſt me; and would endeavour to ſhut me up in ſome of the *gauts*, or paſſes, from which we ſhould not be able to extricuate ourſelves without conſiderable loſs, or the danger of ſtarving in them. Finding, therefore, that no aſſiſtance was to be got from the *Mahratta*, or that his alarm might induce him rather to throw obſtacles in my way, I relinquiſhed, with much mortifying reflection and diſappointment, the proſpect of viſiting

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a place, which I confidered as one of the greateft natural curiofities in *Hindooftan.*

The only expedient that was now left, was to collect as accurate an account of the place as poffible. In this the *Subadar* readily affifted me, and fent me two *Pundits*, who had been there repeatedly, and whom he defcribed as intelligent men, and capable of fatisfying my moft fanguine expectations. They were both *Brahmens*, of high caft, and learned men. I began to interrogate them concerning the roads from *Ruttunpour* to *Omercuntuc.* They faid there was but one, which led from the north fide of the town into the hills, where it continually afcends and defcends over mountains, and leads through deep defiles, on the fides of precipices, and through a foreft almoft impenetrable, to *Pindara*, (a diftance of about twelve *cofs*,) which is the head of a *Purgunnah* bearing the fame name; but the village is very poor, confifting only of a few *Goand* huts. From this place the road was only known to the mountaineers, who are always taken as guides to direct the pilgrims in afcending the table land of *Omercuntuc.* The *Soane* rifes on the eaft fide of it, and flows firft through *Pindara*, where being joined by numerous other ftreams from the N. E. fide of this mountainous land, it proceeds in a northerly direction through *Sohaujepour*, and *Bogalecund;* whence turning to the eaftward, it purfues its courfe to the *Ganges.* After afcending the table land, the temple is found fituated nearly in the center of it; where the *Nurbudda* rifes from a fmall *pucka Coond*, (or well,) from which, they told me, a ftream perpetually flows, and glides along the furface of the high land, until reaching the weft end of it, it precipitates itfelf into *Mundilla.* They defcribed the fall as immenfe, and faid, that at the foot of the table land, its bed becomes a confiderable expanfe, where being immediately joined by feveral other ftreams, it affumes the form of a large river.

I was

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I WAS much gratified with this defcription, which they delivered with fo little hefitation, and which agreed fo well with the accounts I had previoufly received, that it left no doubt in my mind as to its veracity. I next inquired of them, in whofe territory *Omercuntuc* was confidered. They faid, that the *Nagpour* government attached a part of it to their *Purgunnah* of *Pindara*; a fecond part was claimed by the *Rajah* of *Sohaujepour*; and a third by the *Goands*; in whofe poffeffion indeed the whole at that time refted. They defcribed the building as being about forty feet high; that the images were numerous, and that they were defcriptive of a very romantic fable; and this fubject immediately led me into that of the pilgrimage. A defire, it feems, to poffefs the property accruing from the offerings, and taxation levied on the pilgrims who travel thither, had raifed three competitors for it; but it properly belonged to the *Brahmens* who attend on the pagoda.

THE *Hindoos* worfhip at the fource of thefe rivers the confort of *Siva*, whom SIR WILLIAM JONES, in his Treatife on the Gods of *Greece*, *Italy*, and *India*, mentions as being diftinguifhed by the names of PARVATI, or the mountain-born goddefs; DURGA, or difficult of accefs; and BHAVANI, or the goddefs of fecundity; which latter is her leading name at *Omercuntuc*. The temple which contains the *Moorat* or image of BHAVANI, was built by one of the ancient *Rajahs* of *Ruttunpour*. The *Pundits* faid there were formerly records of fifty-two fucceffions; but that, about fixty years ago, the family had become extinct; when the *Mahrattas* took advantage of the confufion that enfued, from the endeavours of many competitors, to feize upon the government; and have retained it ever fince that period. They related to me the names of three preceding *Rajahs*; viz. of HEOHOBUN SING; his father, HEONNURAIS; grand father, BISNAUT SING; and great grand father, RUTTUN SING. More their

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memory, or papers, could not furnifh; but that the whole might be attained by reference to records which were now difficult to be found. Upon my expreffing much folicitude to poffefs them, they told me that they doubted if there were any in *Ruttunpour;* for that the oppreffion and calamity which had befallen the city, fince the *Mahrattas* had got poffeffion of it, had deftroyed that encouragement which the *Brahmens*, under the government of their ancient *Rajahs*, had been accuftomed to receive; and having deprived them of fmall grants of land, upon which they had formerly fubfifted, they had not only difturbed their literary purfuits, but had diftreffed them to fuch a degree, that they had been compelled to wander in fearch of the means of fubfiftence, and of peaceable retirement, elfewhere; and it might naturally be fuppofed that they had taken their books and papers with them. There were at this time, they faid, only two or three families remaining, in the fervice of the *Mahratta* government, upon ftipends fo flender, that they were barely enabled to fubfift.

THE fpring from which the *Nurbudda* takes its fource, is faid to be enclofed by a circular wall, which was built by a man of the name of REWAH, and on that account the river is called *Maht Rewah*, from its fource all through *Mundilla*, until is reaches the confines of *Bhopaul*. The images at *Omercuntuc* are faid to reprefent BHAVANI, (who is there worfhipped under the fymbol of NARMADA, or the *Narbudda* river,) much enraged at her flave JOHILLA, and a great variety of attendants preparing a nuptial banquet; to which a very romantic fable is attached: That SOANE, a demi-god, being much enamoured with the extreme beauty of NARMADA, after a very tedious courtfhip, prefumed to approach the Goddefs, in hopes of accomplifhing the object of his wifhes by efpoufing her. NARMADA fent her flave JOHILLA to obferve in what ftate he was coming; and, if arrayed in jewels, of

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of lovely form and dignity, or worthy to become her conſort, to conduct him to *Omercuntuc.* JOHILLA departed, met with SOANE, and was ſo dazzled with the ſplendor of his ornaments, and extreme beauty, that ſhe fell paſſionately in love with him; and ſo far forgot her duty as to attempt to perſonate her miſtreſs; in which ſucceeding, BHAVANI (or NARMADA) was ſo enraged at the deceit, that, upon their arrival at *Omercuntuc*, ſhe ſeverely chaſtiſed JOHILLA, and diſfigured her face, in the manner ſaid to be repreſented in the image. She then precipitated SOANE from the top of the table land to the bottom, whence that river riſes; diſappeared herſelf in the very ſpot where the *Narbudda* iſſues; and from the tears of JOHILLA, a little river of that name ſprings at the foot of *Omercuntuc.*

THE Pundits terminated their account by preſenting me with an addreſs of BEAS MUNI to the *Narbudda*, extracted from the *Vayer Purana;* and which my friend MR. SAMUEL DAVIS tranſlated for me in the following words. "BEAS MUNI thus addreſſed NURMADA, (or the *Narbudda* river:) Glorious as the ſun and moon are thine eyes; but the eye in thy forehead blazes like fire: Bearing in thy hand a ſpear like the *Treſul*, and reſting on the breaſt of BHYROE. The blood of ANDUK (OSSURA) is dried up in thy preſence; thy *Weuſon* (a ſort of ſnow) is the diſpeller of dread from the human race. BRAMA and SEVA reſound thy praiſes: Mortals adore thee. The *Munis* reverence thee; *Dewas* (demi-gods) and *Hindras* (angels) are thy progeny. Thou art united with the ocean; thou art deſcended from SURYA. By thee are mortals ſanctified. Thou diſpeller of want, thou encreaſeth the proſperity of thoſe who perform devotions to thee. By thee are mortals directed to the bliſsful regions, and taught to avoid the manſions of puniſhment. Thou art alſo REBA, a child of HEMALA, (the ſnowy mountain.) NURMADA anſwered, O MUNI! thy

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words are perfect, and thy heart is pure: Be thou chief of *Munis*. By reading this, a man's life will be lengthened, his happinefs and fame encreafed, and his progeny multiplied."

MARCH 16th. THIS morning I made an excurfion to fee the tank and buildings on the weft fide of *Ruttunpour*. The firft objects that attracted my attention were two *Hindoo* temples on a hill: one had been erected by BEEMBAJEE in honour of LETCHMUN RAM; and the other I found had been built in honour of BEEMAJEE, whofe heroic exploits had raifed him in the opinion of the *Mahrattas* to the honour of a *Dewtah*; at whofe fhrine, offerings, and facrifices, are accordingly made at ftated periods. The guide then led me over fome high banks, round the eaft and north fides of the fort. From the latter a gate projects into a tank upon a high mound. Thefe two faces are furrounded by two large tanks; but the rampart is entirely fallen down, and in the place where it formerly ftood, had been erected fome poor huts. In the north end of the fort is fituated a fmall brick *Hindooftannee* houfe; in which ANUNDYBYE, and another *Ranny* of the late BEEMBAJEE, refided. He left three wives at his death; one of whom only had burned herfelf with his remains; and the other two were then fupported on a *Jagheer*, granted to them by the *Berar Rajah*.

I PROCEEDED in a fouth-weft direction, until I came to a building facred to BHYROE; and found in it an enormous Idol, made of blue granite, about nine feet in height, and which was rubbbed over with red paint, and adorned with flowers. I was next directed to a little hill, called *Letchmy Tackry*, upon which is an image and temple dedicated to BHAVANI; whofe protection, they faid, had ever prevented the *Muffulmen* from difturbing the *Hindoos* in their religious rites at *Ruttunpour*. From this hill, looking north, I had

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I had a fine profpect of the town and fort of *Ruttun-pour*, furrounded by a great number of tanks and pools. Beyond them appeared the mountain of *Loffagur*, on which the *Mahrattas* formerly had a poft; and the view was terminated by the blue mountains towards *Omercuntuc*. To the fouthward was a large lake, called *Doolapour Talaow*; the embankment of which was nearly two miles in length; and to the weftward, about a mile diftant, was a little white building, which they told me was the tomb of *Moo-fakhan*, a *Patan* mendicant, who had been killed by the *Goands*, many years ago, while endeavouring to make converts to the Mahommedan faith.

I NOW defcended from the hill, and went to look at a heap of ruins; among which they pointed out to me *Rajah* ROGONAUT's old *Mahal*, or houfe, under *Goofapahar*. It had been pulled to pieces for the fake of the materials; and the walls had been much mutilated, in hopes of finding treafure. This building had been conftructed on the old fite of *Ruttunpour*, which then bore the name of *Rajepour*. On my return I obferved a building in the middle of a tank, erected on thirty-fix arches of the gothic kind, upon which were raifed twenty-four pyramids over the external piers; and within them appeared a temple of a pyramidical form, the entire height of which I computed to be about fifty feet. They informed me it was a monument erected to the memory of one of the ancient *Rajahs* of *Ruttunpour*; and this object having raifed my curiofity, I felt a ftrong defire to crofs the water for a nearer infpection of it; for, if there had been any infcription upon it, it might probably have thrown fome light upon the hiftory of this part of India. I found, however, that the little excurfion I had already made, had begun to excite fome furprife in the town; which any further delay might have increafed almoft to an alarm; and as I depended a good deal upon the affiftance of the *Subadar* of *Cho-*

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tafgur,

teeſgur, in proſecuting the remainder of my route; I conceived it more adviſable to abandon the building, and return to my camp; than to hazard any obſtruction to my fulfilling with ſucceſs the very arduous undertaking I was engaged in.

THE *Pundits* viſited me again about noon, when a converſation took place concerning the buildings, and ruins, I had viſited in the early part of the day; which commenced with an account of ſeven *Coonds*, (wells) over which, they ſaid, as many *Dewas* preſide. Bathing in them they conſidered as highly beneficial, for thereby they imagine they receive an ablution from ſin. Theſe wells are ſituated in and about *Ruttunpour;* and from the ſanctity attributed to them, the place has been called a *Coſſy.* They related to me a number of fables concerning demons, and giants, who formerly inhabited theſe hills; one of whom, in particular, they mentioned by the name of GOPAUL ROW PALWAN, a great wreſtler, who lived in the reign of the Emperor ACBAR, and whoſe name is ſtill attached to a part of the hills on the north ſide of *Ruttunpour.* They told me many extraordinary ſtories of his exploits, and feats of ſtrength and agility; and added, that the Emperor ACBAR, hearing of his fame, had ſent for him to Court, and that his Majeſty had been vaſtly gratified by his wonderful performances.

THE *Pundits* being about to take their leave; and as my departure next morning would probably prevent our meeting again; I thought the liberal and ready information they had given me, demanded ſome return; and, after making them a ſuitable compenſation, I expreſſed a wiſh, that if they knew of any inſcriptions, or ancient legends, in or about *Ruttunpour*, they would favour me with copies of them. They departed, promiſing to comply with my wiſhes, ſo far as might lie in their power; and in the evening they ſent

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ſent me a paper on which were written ſome lines in the *Deonagur* character, but which proved to be nothing more than a tranſcript from the *Mahabarat.*

RUTTUNPOUR is undoubtedly a place of great antiquity; and, could I have remained there a ſufficient time to examine its ruins, and to ſearch for the ancient records of the place, it is probable I ſhould have obtained ſome uſeful information concerning it.

MARCH 18th. HAVING now reſted five days at *Ruttunpour*, our journey was renewed, with freſh ſpirits, through a champaign country, abundantly watered with little rivers, full of villages, and beautifully ornamented with groves and tanks. After the difficulties we had encountered, the change of ſcene was truly gratifying; and the *Mahratta* government being well eſtabliſhed, and the country highly cultivated, we met with civil treatment, and abundance of every ſpecies of grain. Theſe were comforts to which we had been ſo long unaccuſtomed, that the hardſhips we had ſuffered in traverſing the mountains and wilds of *Corair*, *Kurgummah*, and *Mahtin*, were ſoon forgot. But as an account of each day's journey, through this fertile country, would be tedious and unintereſting in the detail, I need only mention, that we travelled 100 miles through it in little more than thirteen days, which brought us on the 31ſt of March to *Ryepour*, the next principal town in *Choteeſgur;* but which, from its population, and commerce, might juſtly be ranked the firſt. I computed about 3000 huts in it: there is alſo a large ſtone fort on the N. E. ſide of the town, the walls of which are decayed, but the ditch is deep and wide.

THE ſoil in this country is a rich black mould, but no where more than three feet in depth. Under this the ſolid rock appears, as was perceptible in all the beds of the rivers, and in the ſides of tanks and wells.

It

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It produces large quantities of wheat, and vegetable oil; ſuch as the linſeed, and *Palmachriſti*, and various kinds of pulſe. Rice is not abundant, it being only cultivated behind large reſervoirs of water, collected in the rainy ſeaſon, in ſituations where the declivity of the ſurface is ſuitable; and through the dykes, or embankments of which, the water is occaſionally let out to ſupply the vegetation, when the fall of rain from the atmoſphere no longer favors it.

Large quantities of grain are exported from *Choteeſgur* all over the *Nizam*'s dominions, and even to the *Circars*, when the ſcarcity in thoſe provinces requires it. From the latter they import ſalt, which is retailed at ſuch an extravagant price, that it is ſometimes ſold for its weight in ſilver. The villages are very numerous, but poor; and the country abounds in cattle, and brood mares of the *tattoo* ſpecies. The population of *Choteeſgur* is not great, nor does the ſyſtem of government to which it is ſubject at all tend to increaſe it.

The *Subah* of *Choteeſgur*, with its dependencies, was at this time rented by the *Berar* government, to Ittul Pundit, for a ſpecific ſum, which was payable annually in *Nagpour*; and who, in conſideration of the rank of *Subadar*, and his appointment, had likewiſe paid a conſiderable ſum. Upon further inquiry as to the means by which the *Subadar* managed the country, I was informed, that he farmed different portions of it to his tenants, for a certain period, and for ſpecific ſums; nearly upon the ſame terms as the whole was rented to him. The revenue is collected by his tenantry, which, in thoſe parts of the country where the government is well eſtabliſhed, gives them little trouble. The attention of the *Subadar* is chiefly directed to levying tributes from the *Zemeendars* in the mountainous parts of the country; who being always

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ways refractory, and never paying any thing until much time has been ſpent in warfare, the reſult is often precarious, and the tribute conſequently trivial. I was next led to inquire what method was adopted by the tenantry in collecting the revenue from the peaſants. They informed me that it invariably conſiſted in taxing the ploughs, and was always delivered in the produce of the lands; as grain, oil, or cotton, according to the ſpecies of cultivation for which the implements had been uſed. This conſequently occaſions a vaſt accumulation of the produce of the country to the tenant; and ſome expedient becomes immediately neceſſary to convert it into ſpecie to enable him to pay his rent.

THE inſecurity attending the traveller, in his property and perſon, throughout moſt of the native governments of India, and the privilege allowed to the *Zemeendars*, of taxing the merchants who paſs through their diſtricts, is ſo diſcouraging to foreign traders, that they are rarely ſeen, in the *Mahratta* territory, employed in any other line of traffic than that of bringing for ſale a few horſes, elephants, camels, and ſhawls. All other branches of trade, both in exports and imports, are under the immediate management of ſubjects to the empire; under whoſe protection, likewiſe, a numerous claſs of people, called *Brinjaries*, carry on a continual traffic in grain, and every other neceſſary of life. By theſe, the largeſt armies are frequently ſupplied: but although much inland commerce is carried on in this way, it derives very little encouragement from any regulations of the *Mahratta* government, as to the improvement of roads, or any thing to animate it; and it is chiefly upheld by the neceſſity they are under of converting the produce of the lands into ſpecie; the *Brinjaries* purchaſing the grain at a moderate rate from the *Zemeendars*, and retailing it again in thoſe parts of the country, where the poverty of the ſoil, or a temporary ſcarcity, may offer a ready market. Accordingly we find the

Brinjary

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Brinjary perſevering through roads, which nothing but the moſt indefatigable ſpirit of induſtry could induce him to attempt, and where the ſtraightneſs of the paths and defiles, barely affords a paſſage for himſelf and his bullocks.

The *Mahrattas* keep their peaſantry in the moſt abject ſtate of dependance, by which means, they alledge, the *Ryats* are leſs liable to be turbulent, or offenſive to the government. Coin is but ſparingly circulated among them; and they derive their habitations, and ſubſiſtence, from the labour of their own hands. Their troops, who are chiefly compoſed of emigrants, from the northern and weſtern parts of *Hindooſtan*, are quartered upon the tenantry, who, in return for the accommodation and ſubſiſtence they afford them, require their aſſiſtance, whenever it may be neceſſary, for collecting the revenues. Such was the ſtate of the country and government of *Choteeſgur*; the exports of which, in ſeaſons of plenty, are ſaid to employ 100,000 bullocks; and it is accordingly one of the moſt productive provinces under the *Berah Rajah*.

The only road from *Cuttack* to *Nagpour* paſſes through *Ryepour*: it is indeed the only track by which a communication is kept open between thoſe two places; but it is frequently obſtructed by the *Zemeendars* who poſſeſs the intervening ſpace of hilly country.

April 4th. A journey of ſeven days, during which the weather proved very pleaſant, terminated this day on the ſouthern confines of *Choteeſgur*. We were here within view of the hills that extend from near the ſea coaſt of the Northern *Circars* to this part of the peninſula; a ſpace of about three degrees in latitude. Our march through this fine champaign country had recruited the ſtrength of our cattle; and I found my party yet able to endure much fatigue, and hard ſervice, ſhould it be required. I had

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had been abundantly regaled with fine water fowls, large flocks of ortolans and quails; and the large herds of cattle having furniſhed us with milk, and *ghee*, in great abundance, which we obtained for the moſt inconſiderable prices, our departure from this charming country was regretted by the whole party; and the recollection of the hardſhips we had already ſuffered in a hilly country, rendered the proſpect before us rather unwelcome.

It was here that I firſt met the *Mahanuddee*, or *Cuttack* river, and croſſed it to enter upon the thick woods of *Conkair*, where the road immediately dwindled into a narrow path, or defile, through thick buſhes and foreſt trees. After croſſing a low ridge of hills, we entered upon that tract of country which is poſſeſſed by the ancient *Rajahs* of *Goandwannah;* and is entirely inhabited by the *Goand* mountaineers. The village at which our march terminated this day, conſiſted only of five poor huts; and the *Goands*, amounting to about fifteen inhabitants, came out to gaze at us. They were totally diveſted of alarm; and gave us to underſtand, through the medium of a *Jaſſoos Hirkarrah*, that, but for the inſtructions they had received from their chief, they would not have allowed us to enter upon their territory.

April 5th. This day a very ſerious misfortune befell me, in the loſs of the only *Hirkarrah* who had ever before been in theſe wild and unfrequented tracts. He was the ſame whom I have already mentioned as having viſited the ſources of the *Narbudda* and *Soane* rivers; at which time he was in the ſervice of the *Mahrattas*. He had, three days before, been indiſpoſed with a complaint in his bowels, probably owing to the change of water, which had induced me to diſpenſe with his attendance, in order that he might travel at his leiſure, in company with another ſick man,

who

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who uſually came to the ground about an hour after the reſt of the people. This day, however, they were both miſſing; and on my inquiring into the cauſe, the *Mahratta Hirkarrah*, whom ITTUL PUNDIT had deputed with me from *Ruttunpour*, replied, by conjecturing, that they had been robbed and murdered on the road by the *Goands;* for, ſaid he, where are they to find refuge in this wild and inhoſpitable country?

INTELLIGENCE of my approach having been ſent, by the *Mahratta Aumil*, on the frontier of *Choteeſgur*, to the *Conkair Rajah;* this evening a *Vakeel* came from him, to congratulate me on my arrival in his territory, and to conduct me to his reſidence. I was much pleaſed at the courteſy of the *Goand* chief; for the ſpecimen I had ſeen of his ſubjects, ſhewed that they were in general very ſavage, and by no means wanting in ſpirit; and I ſoon found, that nothing but conciliating their good opinion, would enable me to travel among them with any probability of ſucceſs. We were, however, abundantly ſupplied with grain in our progreſs through his country.

APRIL 6th. WE arrived at the town of *Conkair*, which is ſituated between a high rocky hill and the ſouth bank of the *Mahanuddee* river. On the ſummit of the hill the *Rajah* had built a fortreſs, and mounted two guns. We encamped in a mango grove on the north ſide of the river, where, after taking a little refreſhment, I diſpatched to the *Rajah* the letter which had been procured for me by ITTUL PUNDIT from the *Ranny* of BEMBAJEE. An anſwer was returned in about two hours, ſtating, that the *Rajah* would viſit me the enſuing morning; when I ſhould be informed of every particular concerning my route to the country of the late VIZIA-RAM-RAUZE; and in the mean time he ſent me a preſent of five fowls, ſome eggs, and a ſmall pig.

I

MY

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My *Hirkarrahs* ſoon got intelligence that the *Rajahs* of *Conkair* and *Buſtar* were at variance; and that the former had laid waſte and taken poſſeſſion of the N. E. frontier of the *Buſtar Rajah's* country; where they informed me, the *Mahanuddee* riſes at a place called *Sehowah*, about ſeven *coſs* to the ſouth of *Conkair*. This place is entirely ſurrounded by hills, but the ranges extending from the north round to the eaſt and ſouth, appeared very lofty and extenſive. The *Buſtar* frontier is only ſix *coſs* diſtant to the ſouthward, and is entered upon through *Tilly Gautty*, a very rugged and ſteep paſs over the hills.

April 7th. This morning, about eight o'clock, was announced to me the approach of Saum Sing, the *Rajah* of *Conkair;* of whoſe intended viſit having received previous notice, I had prepared every thing for his reception accordingly. After the ſalutation was over, I began an inquiry into the nature of the country through which my journey was to be purſued to the Northern *Circars*. The *Rajah* replied perſonally to a variety of queſtions, and I was ſurprized to find him ſpeak the *Hindooſtanny* language with great fluency. He gave me very explicit information, that my neareſt route would be by *Dongah* to *Jugdulpour*, the principal town of *Buſtar;* from thence to *Cotepar*, which is the boundary between *Buſtar* and *Jaepour;* and thence to *Jaepour* through *Koorkooty gaut*, to the country of Viziaram Rauze. He ſaid that this road to the ſea coaſt was frequented only by the *Brinjaries:* but even they had lately abandoned it, in conſequence of the refractory conduct of the *Buſtar Rajah;* for the neighbouring *Goand Zemeendars*, inſtigated by the *Mahrattas*, had plundered and deſtroyed all the villages to a conſiderable diſtance upon it. He then informed me of another route, taking a circuit to the eaſtward, by *Sehowah* (the ſource of the *Mahanuddee*) through *Ryegur* to *Japour;* which the *Brinjaries* at that time frequented; and by which the

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the *Bustar Rajah's* territory would be avoided. Both roads met at *Jaepour*, the capital of the country bearing the same name; which town is said to consist of about five hundred *Oorea* huts. The old town of *Bustar*, I was informed, had been deserted; the inhabitants having removed to *Jugdulpour;* under which a considerable river runs, called the *Inderowy;* the bed of which, at that place, is very rocky, and not fordable at any period of the year. A small fort is situated in a peninsula formed by the winding of the river; and a deep ditch having been dug across the narrow neck of land, it is considered a strong situation; but, in the rainy season, the river overflows its banks, and forms a very extensive lake on all sides.

THE road by *Sehowah* and *Ryegur* appearing the only practicable one, I had resolved, after taking an adequate supply of provisions from *Conkair*, to commence upon it: But, on communicating my intention to SAUM SING, he endeavoured to dissuade me from it; alledging, in the first place, that if I reached the *Jaepour gaut*, I should find it shut up, and occupied by a large body of troops belonging to the son of the late VIZIARAM RAUZE; who would certainly oppose me; and that my party was not only too weak to force a passage, but even to preserve ourselves from being plundered, and cut off. Upon asking the reason of his being there in a hostile manner, he told me, that VIZIARAM RAUZE's country had been taken from him by the *Fringhys;** that the *Rajah*, with a great many of his people, had died in defence of it, (alluding to the action near *Padnaburam*, in 1794,) and that he did not doubt, but NARRAIN BAUPPOO, his son, and the remainder of his adherents, would be glad of an opportunity of retaliating upon me and my party. It appeared, indeed, that *Rajah* RAMLOCHUN, of *Jaepour*, had, subsequent to the death of VIZIARAM RAUZE,

* Europeans.

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RAUZE, afforded protection to his son; having received him, and his adherents, with much cordiality; and had united them with his own forces, to enable him to resist the English, and evade paying the tribute which had formerly been paid to VIZIARAM RAUZE. SAUM SING added, that, as I should have to pass through the center of the *Jaepour* country, if I escaped from one attempt that would be made to plunder me, I could nevertheless not hope to penetrate through it; for *Rajah* RAMLOCHUN could at any time muster 5000 men, the greater part of whom carried matchlocks; and others were provided with large crooked knives, and long spears; whose custom is to creep on the ground under cover of the bushes, until within reach of their enemy, when they throw their spears with great dexterity and effect. He next represented to me that the *Bustar Rajah*, DORRYAR DEO, and his son, PEERKISSEN DEO, were very treacherous and powerful; having possession of a great extent of country, divided into forty-eight *Purgunnahs*. That DORRYAR DEO, at the time of the decease of his father, had three brothers, on two of whom he had seized, and having put out their eyes, he still kept them in confinement; but the third had made his escape to *Nagpour*. Many acts of the most horrid treachery, which he had been guilty of towards his own people, were then detailed to me; and his only remaining relative, who had been subservient to his views, having lately been plundered by him, had fled to avoid more dreadful consequences. That DORRYAR DEO had removed his residence from *Jugdulpour* to a neighbouring hill fort, about five *coss* distant, called *Kaisloor*; on which he had secured himself against the *Mahrattas*; and paid them no more tribute than he felt himself inclined to; on which account they plundered his country, and encouraged all the *Zemeendars* in the neighbourhood of *Bustar* to do the same; and to wrest from him as much of his territory as they could. SAUM SING next stated to me, that, under such circumstances, I could not expect that DORRYAR

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DEO would pay much attention to my *Mahratta Purwannah*; and he was convinced, that if he did not attack me openly, he would do it underhand, by means of the *Jaepour Rajah*. He concluded by telling me, that he had been induced to give me this information, to diſſuade me from proceeding to VIZIANAGRUM, by *Buſtar* and *Jaepour*, to the end that no reproach might come upon him; for in caſe any misfortune ſhould befal me, the *Mahrattas* would undoubtedly tax him with duplicity, in not having given me information of the danger before me; and that as I was recommended to his care by his adopted mother, the *Ranny* of the late BEMBAJEE, he felt himſelf doubly inclined to prevent any harm happening to me; but, if I was determined upon taking that route, I muſt take the conſequences upon myſelf; for, after the repreſentation he had made of the difficulty and danger of attempting it, he ſhould conſider himſelf as rid of all reſponſibility, and would make the ſame known to the *Mahratta* government.

THE information of the *Goand* chief was delivered with ſo much candour, and ſo very explicitly, that I could not harbour a doubt as to its veracity; and I found it afterwards fully verified on my arrival in the *Circars*.

I WAS next led to inquire, that, ſuppoſing the country was ſettled, and the *Buſtar* and *Jaepour Rajahs* not unfriendly to travellers, if the track through it would be of a convenient nature for loaded cattle. SAUM SING replied, that the road through theſe countries conſiſted of one continual aſcent and deſcent, through the thickeſt foreſts and mountainous paths; and in ſome places over the ſides of the moſt craggy precipices; that the whole of the *Buſtar* country was almoſt a wilderneſs; being, in a few places only, thinly inhabited by the wild *Goands*, who are in a ſtate of nature; and that in ſome parts I ſhould find

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no water but at a very long diſtances; and, in reality, no ſupplies of grain, until I ſhould arrive upon the frontier of VIZIARAM RAUZE's country.

SUCH unfavourable reports of the ſtate of the countries before me, damped at once the hopes I had entertained of fulfilling with entire ſucceſs the object of my deputation; and I experienced the moſt vexatious diſappointment at ſuch a check being thrown in the way of my progreſs. I was indeed at a loſs which way to direct my courſe through this labyrinth of mountains and wilderneſs; but, upon aſking SAUM SING which would be the moſt eligible road to the ſea coaſt, he replied without heſitation, that the only practicable road would be from *Conkair*, through the hills and *jungles* to *Byragur*, a diſtance of about forty *coſs* to the weſtward; where I ſhould fall in with a high road leading to the *Deccan* through the middle of *Chanda*, a fine champaign country. As my original intention of proceeding in a ſoutherly direction had been fruſtrated, and the track pointed out to me through *Chanda*, would ſtill furniſh many deſirable acquiſitions in geographical knowledge, I reſolved to adopt it; or rather I knew of no other to purſue.

THE *Rajah*, who was now about to take his leave, perceiving a ſheet of white paper upon the table, which attracted his curioſity, it was handed to him; when he admired it exceedingly; and made a requeſt that, if I had any to ſpare, I would give him ſome; which I promiſed accordingly; and here our conference ended.

WHEN *Rajah* SAUM SING, with his retinue, had departed, I ſent an intelligent man to him to take an account of all the roads leading from this place to the ſea coaſt; and particularly of that which he had adviſed me to purſue. As the *Mahratta Hirkarrah* who

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had accompanied me from *Ruttunpour*, was here to leave me, it became neceſſary that we ſhould have ſome other man who could interpret between us and the *Goands* who were to be our guides. I ſent therefore a requeſt to the *Rajah*, ſoliciting that ſuch a perſon might accompany us to his frontier; and likewiſe, that he would give me letters recommending me to the attention of the other *Goand Zemeendars* between *Conkair* and *Byragur*. As an inducement to him to comply, I took this opportunity of ſending him, according to my promiſe, a quire of gilt writing paper, and ſome coloured China paper. In the evening my meſſenger returned with an account, that the *Rajah* had been delighted with the little preſent I had made him; and had in a very ſatisfactory manner complied with my requeſt.

About ſeven o'clock in the evening, the *Rajah's Dewan*, who I underſtood was the only man in the town that could read or write, came and preſented me with a ſmall piece of paper, addreſſed to the *Goand* chief whoſe territory is ſituated between *Conkair* and *Byragur*. It was written in the *Mahratta* character; and, on procuring a tranſlation, I found it was addreſſed to the *Rajah* of *Pannawar*, and contained merely information of who I was, and where I was going, in order that he might not be alarmed at my approach, nor impede me in my progreſs through his country. The *Dewan* then delivered us ſome *Goands*, as guides, and departed.

April 8th. This morning we experienced much trouble in detaining any of our guides; ſome of whom had, after repeated ſtruggles, broke looſe, and ran off. Our route led through thick foreſts and defiles among the hills, which continued during this and the enſuing day, until we reached *Bouſlagur*, a large *Goand* village, ſituated at the foot of a high hill. It was here I firſt obſerved the ſtreams running to the weſtward, and that

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the

the country is drained into the *Godavery*; having hitherto perceived the little rivers and *nullahs* running eaſtward, and falling into the *Mahanuddee*. From *Conkair* to this place (a diſtance of about forty miles) not a ſingle habitation had occurred, which could with propriety be denominated a hamlet. I had indeed obſerved a hut or two, here and there, with ſmall ſpots of land ſomewhat cleared, where the *Goands* had cut down the trees to within three feet of the ground, and having interwoven the branches ſo as to fence their plantations againſt the attacks of wild beaſts, had removed the intervening graſs and creepers, to make room for the cultivation of a little maize, or Indian corn.

April 10th. This morning, as the party was moving off, the *Goands*, who had been brought out of the village by the *Rajah's* people to ſerve as guides, were no ſooner delivered to us, than they began to make very deſperate attempts to get away; in moſt of which they ſucceeded. The *Rajah's* men alledged, that it was from fear; but to me it appeared to proceed from knavery, and an inclination to quarrel; for, when we had moved on a little way, a large body of *Goands*, armed with ſpears, ſurrounded a loaded bullock that was coming off the ground a little later than the reſt; and, if I had not ſent back a party to the aſſiſtance of the people in charge of it, there appeared to be little doubt but they would have carried it off. A man alſo, who had dropped ſome part of his property, and had returned the day before to look for it, was no more heard of; which convinced me that he had been cut off by theſe wild ſavages, who appear not to be wanting in inclination to fight, when plunder is in view, and who uſually add murder to their depredations.

April 12th. We reached the *Conkair Rajah's* frontier; and I had ſcarcely gone beyond it, when intelligence was brought me of a large body of

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men being perceived poſted in the *jungle* on our left flank. On *reconnoitering* them, I found that they had taken poſſeſſion of a defile, through which the road led; that many of them had matchlocks, with their matches ready lighted; and the reſt were armed with ſpears, bows, and arrows. Finding us aware of them, they did not advance; but a man on horſeback came forward, and ſaid, that he was deputed by the *Rajah* of *Pannawar* to aſcertain who we were; but on my ſhewing him the *Conkair Rajah's* paper, he returned to his party, who made way for us to paſs them, and proceeding, we ſoon reached *Pannawar*. Here I perceived the *Rajah*, ſeated on a riſing ground, gazing at us; and immediately ſent the *Mahratta* paſs for his inſpection, to which, although he ſhewed ſome reſpect, he would not afford us grain, nor proviſions of of any kind; and in the moſt ſullen manner rejected all communication whatever. It was not until our utmoſt entreaties had been made, that we could get guides from him; in which at length ſucceeding, I departed with much ſatisfaction from the inhoſpitable manſion of this *Goand* chief.

The *Buſtar* frontier is about ten *coſs* diſtant from this place; the aſpect of the country in that direction is very mountainous; and all accounts corroborated the *Conkair Rajah's* deſcription of it, as being a wilderneſs, and almoſt deſolate. Our road led from one paſſage through the hills to another, ſo that the view could no where be extenſive. Theſe are doubtleſs the ranges of hills, which, continuing along the eaſt ſide of *Berar*, connect the mountains of *Omercuntuc*, and *Mundilla*, with thoſe of *Tilingana* and *Buſtar*; and extend to the ſea coaſt in the Northern *Circars*.

A march of fifty miles more, in three days, brought us to *Malliwer*, the reſidence of another *Goand* chief. The road was much more difficult, and the country one continued wilderneſs. A conſiderable declivity,

between

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between the mountains, ſeparates the territory of the *Rajah* of *Pannawar* from that of *Malliwer*. I had frequently obſerved the *Goands* gather a ſmall red plum from the *jungles*, and eat it; and this day a ſepoy, who had followed their example, preſented me ſome upon a leaf, which, on eating, I found to be a very pleaſant ſubacid fruit. I afterwards met with abundance of this berry throughout *Chanda*, and was careful to preſerve the ſtones, ſome of which I planted in the *Circars*, and brought the remainder to *Bengal*.

Dooroog Shaw, the *Rajah* of *Malliwer*, ſupplied us with a little rice; but, until I had ſent the *Mahratta* paſs for his inſpection on the following day, and demanded guides, he ſeemed to concern himſelf but little about us. The man whom I had deputed upon this ſervice, returned to inform me, that on his preſenting the *Purwannah*, the *Goand* chief had thrown it down, and ſpit upon it; and when he remonſtrated with him on this diſreſpectful conduct towards the *Rajah* of *Berar*, he replied, that he was not in *Nagpour*, and that he apprehended nothing from him. Of this unaccountable conduct I took little notice at the time; but ordered my people to prepare for marching. Dooroog Shaw, perceiving our meaſures, came towards our encampment with a large retinue; when every thing being ready to move off the ground, I ſent my *Moonſhee* to him, eſcorted by a *naick* and ſix *ſepoys*, with directions to ſhew him the paſs once more, and to caution him againſt any diſreſpect to it; for, notwithſtanding the *Rajah* was abſent from his capital, I ſhould, on my arrival at *Byragur*, loſe no time in tranſmitting an account of the inſult to the *Mahratta* officers who were in charge of the government. He ſeemed to be ſtartled at the ſight of the *ſepoys*; and, as ſoon as the meſſage was delivered to him, he ſent to requeſt a conference with me, to which I aſſented. A man, called his *Dewan*, who ſpoke a little bad *Hin-*
devee,

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devee, was the interpreter between us. The reſult of our interview was, that DOOROOG SHAW wanted a preſent from me: I told him his inhoſpitable treatment did not merit it, and that I ſhould give him none. At this he appeared much offended; but finding that his importunities availed him nothing, he ordered three of his *Goands* to attend us as guides, with whom we immediately departed, leaving him no time to waver, or to countermand his orders.

HAVING diſmounted from my horſe in the courſe of this march, to take the bearings of ſome remarkable hills, a man, and a lad about ten years old, whoſe faces I knew not, fell proſtrate at my feet. Upon inquiring into the cauſe of it, I was informed they belonged to a tribe of *Hindoo* mendicants, known by the name of *Gooſaigns*. The man firſt raiſing his head and hands, in the moſt ſupplicating poſture, requeſted that I would hear him. Surprize at this uncommon circumſtance arreſted my attention, and he began to recite his tale. He ſaid, that he, in company with many other *Gooſaigns*, had ſet out from the place of their reſidence, *Mirzapour*, (a town well known on the banks of the *Ganges*,) and that, after having travelled through the Engliſh territory to *Cuttack*, and made the pilgrimage of *Jaggernaut*, they had reſolved to make all the pilgrimages in the ſouthern parts of the Peninſula: But wiſhing firſt to viſit the ſource of the *Mahanuddee*, and principal places of ſanctity upon the upper parts of the *Gunga Godavery*, they had taken their route along the banks of the former. Having travelled unmoleſted for ſome time, and ſubſiſted, in ſome places, on the alms of the *Hindoos*, wherever they found them, they had at length fallen in with the hills and *jungles* inhabited only by the *Goands*, who had plundered them, and murdered many of their companions; of whoſe bodies they had made offerings to their God; and that the two pitiful objects before me, were an inſtance of uncommon good fortune in

eſcaping

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escaping from the cruelty of these savages. I desired the man and boy to raise themselves up, when they solicited my protection, and permission to follow among my party; alledging, that, but for my taking compassion on their situation, and feeding them, they must undoubtedly perish. The first request I readily granted; but, as to the second, I told him that I had been only enabled to travel in these wilds, with so many people, by the most provident precaution; and by making every man carry his food for a certain number of days, until fresh supplies of grain could be procured: that it would not be just in me to deprive any man of his daily allowance, to give to them: but, as there were many *Hindoos* among my people, they might prevail on some of them to part with a little of their grain for immediate subsistence; and that in three days more we should arrive at *Byragur*, where their wants would be more effectually relieved.

The conference being ended, I resumed my journey for the day, and was no more importuned by the *Goosaigns*; but I observed them afterwards among the *sepoys*, and received many grateful acknowledgments from them for the protection I had afforded them. I found also, on inquiry, that the *Hindoo sepoys* had fed them.

April 17th. Our journey was continued, without any remarkable occurrence, through the hills and jungles, to within nine miles of *Byragur*, where we arrived this day. This place was formerly annexed to *Chanda*, and the country still bears that name, though they are now separate *Subahdaries*. Bishun Pundit was at this time *Subahdar* of *Byragur*, and had rented the country for a specific period by contract. The government was much of the same nature as that I had met with in *Choteesgur*. *Byragur* is considered by the *Mahrattas* as a large town, and may consist of

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about

about three hundred tiled and thatched houſes. It has a ſtone fort on the N. W. ſide, cloſe under the eaſt face of which runs the *Kobragur*, which winds round the S. W. ſide of the town, and being joined by another ſmall river, takes a north-weſterly courſe, and falls into the *Wainy*, or *Baun Gunga*.

BYRAGUR appeared to be a place of ſome traffic: I found here large bodies of *Brinjaries* from all parts of *Choteeſgur*, and ſome from the *Circars*. The trade ſeemed to conſiſt chiefly of cotton, which is brought from the N. W. parts of *Berar* and *Choteeſgur*. This is taken up by traders from the *Circars*, who, in exchange for it, give ſalt, beetle, and coco nuts: and I underſtood that from this cotton the moſt beautiful cloths in the Northern *Circars* are manufactured.

THE long marches we had made through the hills and *jungles*, from *Conkair*, having haraſſed us a good deal, I reſolved to reſt a day at this place; as well with a view to gain information of the country before us, as to recover from our fatigues. I found the *Conkair Rajah's* information concerning the *Buſtar* country, and that at this place I ſhould fall in with a high road leading from *Nagpour* to *Maſulipatam*, very accurate. The *Mahratta* government being alſo well eſtabliſhed at *Byragur*, the greateſt attention was paid to my paſs, and I received every civility and attention in conſequence of it.

APRIL 18th. IN the evening BISHUN PUNDIT paid me a viſit, and detailed to me a route leading from *Byragur*, through the city of *Chanda*, to *Rajamandry*, in length about two hundred *coſs*, or nearly four hundred miles: But the difference of latitude, in a meridional direction between the two places, not exceeding two hundred geographical miles, that route appeared rather circuitous; and my intelligence from other

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other quarters ſoon convinced me, that by going to *Chanda*, I ſhould conſiderably increaſe the weſting I had already made from *Conkair*. As the authority of the *Mahratta* government extended ſome diſtance to the eaſtward of *Chanda*, I thought I might ſafely venture to take a ſoutherly courſe for five or ſix marches, when drawing nearer to that part of the *Nizam's* territory which I was to paſs through, I ſhould probably obtain authentic information concerning the ſtate of it.

THE general alarm that ſeemed to have pervaded the whole of the *Berar Rajah's* ſubjects, throughout *Chanda*, in conſequence of the *Mahratta* war with the *Nizam*; and the armies being upon the point of coming to battle; a multitude of apprehenſions had been excited, and various reports were already circulated, as to the iſſue of it. Immenſe quantities of grain had been ſent from *Chanda* to ſupply the *Mahratta* army; and I found it was increaſed in price near 200 *per cent.* dearer than it had been in *Choteeſgur*; rice being ſold here at ſixteen *ſeers* for a rupee.

NAGPOUR is not more than ſeventy miles from *Byragur* in a north-weſterly direction. I might now be ſaid to be verging upon the *Deccan*; and the change of climate, on entering the plain country, had become very perceptible; for the nights, which in the *Goand* hills had been very chill, were now become hot. The ſoil in *Chanda* appears ſandy; and the produce is chiefly rice, with ſmall quantities of pulſe and ſugar-cane. Numerous herds of the fineſt goats, and ſheep, are breed in this part of the country.

APRIL 19th. I moved from *Byragur* about ſixteen miles to *Purla*; and proceeded through the eaſtern ſide of *Chanda*, ſkirting round the *Goand* hills and *jungles* which lay to the left of my route. I was informed, that this hilly tract is partly ſubject to the *Mahrattas*; but,

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but, at the diſtance of twenty *coſs* the country belongs to the *Buſtar Rajah*, who is independant; and the inhabitants ſo wild, that it is never frequented by travellers; and I was told of more inſtances of *Fakeers* having been murdered in attempting to penetrate through it.

April 20th. We arrived at *Cherolygur*, a large and well peopled village; from which place, I underſtood, the city of *Chanda* is only thirty *coſs* diſtant. Three marches more through a country tolerably open, brought us to *Knuſery*, which is under the *Subahdary* of *Chanda*.

April 24th. We reached *Tolady*, a village near the S. E. frontier of the *Chanda Purgunnah*; and croſſed this day the *Wainy*, or *Baungunga* river, which, riſing in the hills of *Choteeſgur*, receives all the little ſtreams that have their ſources on the S. W. ſide of the hills that divide the champaign country of *Choteeſgur* from *Berar*. We had obſerved for the laſt two days many numerous flocks of ſheep and goats in the villages. The ſoil was very ſandy; and the white ants ſo numerous, that they ate the people's cloaths while they ſlept, and ſcarcely left them or me a pair of ſhoes.

April 25th. Our march terminated at the little village of *Cotala*. I had now proceeded ſo far in a ſoutherly direction, as nearly to reach the *Chanda* frontier; and I was informed that only one ſmall *Purgunnah*, belonging to the *Berar Rajah*, intervened between this place and the *Nizam*'s territory; through which a high road leads into the *Ellore Circar*.

The hoſtilities which at this time exiſted between the *Nizam* and the *Mahratta* Empire, ſuggeſted to me the neceſſity of proceeding with caution, in paſſing the frontier of their reſpective countries; for, having no paſs,

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paſs, nor public papers, to produce to the *Nizam's* officers, it was very uncertain in what manner they might receive me; or whether they would not reſiſt my entering the territory of their ſovereign. The *Purgunnah* I ſhould firſt enter upon, ſubject to the *Nizam*, was *Chinnoor;* the capital town of which, bearing the ſame name, is ſituated on the north bank of the river *Godavery*. I was informed that this was the only inhabited place in the whole diſtrict; for the *Zemeendar* who rented the country, having rebelled about ſeven years before, the *Nizam* had ſent a large body of troops to ſubdue him; but, not being able to get poſſeſſion of his perſon, had laid waſte the country, and had encouraged his vaſſals to pillage it likewiſe. This warfare had continued about four years, when the refractory *Zemeendar* was at length betrayed by his own adherents, and murdered; after which all his ſtrong holds were reduced. But the calamity occaſioned by this ſcene of rapine, and murder, fell heavieſt upon the peaſantry, who had all fled, and ſought refuge in the neighbouring diſtricts; and, for the laſt three years, there had not been an inhabitant in the whole diſtrict, excepting a few matchlockmen in the fort of *Chinnoor*.

As my route would not lay within thirty miles of *Chinnoor*, I had nothing to apprehend from that quarter; and the reſt of the country being deſolate, there was no body to obſtruct me until I ſhould have croſſed the *Godavery*, and proceeded about forty *coſs* along the ſouth bank of that river, which would bring me upon the *Rajah* of *Paloonſhah*'s frontier.

Ashruff Row, the *Rajah* of *Paloonſhah*, had likewiſe reſiſted the *Nizam*'s government for many years; and at this time he barely acknowledged allegiance to him. Upon inquiring into his hiſtory, character, and in what manner travellers who paſſed through his country were treated, I was informed, that the old *Rajah* had left two ſons, the eldeſt of whom, who was only nineteen

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nineteen years of age at the time of his father's decease, had succeeded him. That his territory consisted of two *Purgunnahs* from the *Cummun Zemeendary*, viz. *Paloonshah*, and *Sunkergherry*. He is a *Munsubdar* of the Empire, and holds the country as a *Jagheer*, on consideration of his maintaining a certain body of troops for the service of his sovereign. When the *Nizam's* government was effective in *Paloonshah*, all the roads were much frequented; but since the *Rajah* had been refractory, the roads were shut up; and several horse merchants who had attempted to pass through the country, of late years, had been either robbed of their horses, or the *Rajah* had taken them for much less than their real value. The only travellers who frequented this road at present, were the *Brinjaries;* and they were only permitted to pass on condition of paying certain duties; but even this the *Rajah* would not have allowed, but from an apprehension that the *Mahrattas* might encourage the wild *Goands*, who live in the hills on the north side of the *Godavery*, to plunder his country; as indeed they had formerly done; when the rapine and murder committed by them, had so much distressed the *Tillinghy* inhabitants, that they stood in the greatest dread of those savages ever since.

From these unfavorable accounts of the *Paloonshah Rajah*, I had little reason to expect that I should get through his country without trouble; which induced me to direct my attention seriously to the *Goand* hills and *jungles*, with a view to discover, if possible, some track through them into the Company's territory near the sea coast.

April 26th. After skirting along the east side of the *Seerpour Purgunnah*, I arrived near the town of *Beejoor*, within four *coss* of the hills and *jungles* that are inhabited only by the *Goands*. My information concerning the *Nizam's* country being at this place

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fully confirmed, I resolved to avoid it if possible. I nderstood that there was no regular road through the hilly country to the sea coast, but that the *Brinjaries* sometimes penetrate through it, and that they frequently go into the hills, with sugar and salt, to barter with the *Goands* for the produce of their *jungles*. The difference of latitude beetween *Ellore* and this place, being little more than two degrees, convinced me that the distance in a direct line could not be great. The route through *Chinnoor*, and *Paloonshah*, I knew to be very circuitous, which was another reason for my wishing to avoid it: I therefore pursued every inquiry as to the disposition of the *Goand* chiefs who possess those immense ranges of mountains, with a view to attempt a passage through them.

THE districts adjoining to the eastern parts of the *Mahratta* territory, were at this time under INKUT ROW, a *Goand* chief, who had formerly been the principal *Rajah* in the southern parts of *Goandwannah*; and who held them as a *Jagheer* from the *Berar* government. I was told, that some attention would be paid to my pass throughout his territory, which extended a considerable way into the hills: That, upon leaving his frontier, I should enter the country of the *Bustar Rajah*. And, having a recommendatory letter to that chief, I concluded that his subjects would not materially impede my journey. As the distance in a direct line, from *Beejoor* to the sea coast, could not exceed one hundred and fifty miles, I had every reason to expect, that, on leaving INKUT ROW's frontier, I should be enabled to reach the Company's territory in five or six long marches. I had resolved, moreover, to keep in reserve provisions for twelve days consumption, that, in the event of accidents or delays, in a wild country, and difficult road, we might not be distressed on this head; and should require nothing from the *Goands*, but to direct us in the track we were to follow. I entertained but little doubt of meeting

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Brinjaries, who, for a handsome gratuity, might be induced to assist us, and possibly to conduct me through the *Bustar* territory; in which case I should be totally independant of the *Goands*; not conceiving that they would ever oppose me in open force.

April 27th. With this plan in view, I entered upon Inkut Row's territory, and, after crossing the *Baungunga* river, encamped near the village of *Dewilmurry*, which is situated on its eastern bank. This was the most considerable *Goand* hamlet I had seen, and might consist of about fifty huts. An extensive spot of ground was cleared and cultivated around it; and beyond the village some lofty ranges of hills appeared to rise. The river is here a considerable stream, being augmented by the junction of the *Wurda* and *Wainy Gunga*, about three *coss* to the north-westward of this place.

The usual residence of Inkut Row is at *Arpilly*, about ten *coss* distant from *Dewilmurry*, in a N. E. direction among the hills. He is a *surdar* of five hundred horse in the *Mahratta* service, and was at this time, absent in command of an expedition against the districts of *Edilabad* and *Neermul*, belonging to the *Nizam*: These are separated from *Chanda* only by a range of hills; the passes through which had been already secured, to prevent supplies of grain being carried into the enemy's country.

The *Goands* had been so much alarmed on our approach, that they all fled out of the village; excepting two or three men who had been converted to the *Mahommedan* faith; and who no sooner perceived that we were travellers, than their fears subsided, and, after saluting us with the *salam aleicum*, they returned to take peaceable possession of their dwellings.

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WE procured here as much rice as we required; and the *Goands* having given us forage for our cattle *gratis*, and readily provided us with guides for the enſuing day, I looked upon this as an auſpicious omen to my paſſing through their hills and wilds without moleſtation. I made ſome inquiry into the nature of the track before us; but, not being able to underſtand their jargon, the reſult was little ſatisfactory. Their hoſpitable behaviour, however, encouraged me to proceed.

APRIL 28th. WE marched about fourteen miles, the road leading through a thick foreſt, in a narrow valley, to the village of *Rajaram*, where, ſoon after our arrival, ſeveral *Goands* who were intoxicated came out of their huts, making a great uproar. We encamped at a ſmall *tank*, about half a mile from the village, leaving the ſavages to enjoy their inebriation. The guides, who had conducted us from *Dewilmurry*, went into the village, and brought us two men, one of whom ſpoke *Tellinghy*. The other, I was told, was a relation of INKUT ROW's, and a man of ſome conſequence; which indeed, from his appearance, I ſhould not have diſcovered; for, excepting a ſmall cloth round his waiſt, he was perfectly naked. A little courteſy ſoon induced him to ſupply us with ſome dry grain, ſuch as *Raggy*, and Indian corn; and as far as I could underſtand, he feigned to regret that his country afforded nothing more acceptable to us. I made the *Goand* chief a trifling preſent, with which he appeared to be well pleaſed, and ſhewed an inclination to be much more communicative. This led me to queſtion him concerning the *Buſtar Goands*; when he informed me, that at a very ſhort diſtance I ſhould find them quite wild; and that even his appearance among them, with a white cloth on, was ſufficient to alarm them; for they were all naked, both men and women. He ſaid, that in the direction I was going, I ſhould on the enſuing day enter the territory of another

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Goand chief, who was nephew to INKUT ROW, and who, in consequence of my *Mahratta* pass, would treat me with attention. Beyond this, I should fall in with a considerable river, called the *Inderowty*, and, after crossing it, should enter upon the *Bustar Rajah's* territory of *Bhopaulputtun*, where the people are very wild. This intelligence was very pleasing to me; for, not having met with any rice this day, I began to apprehend that I had been neglectful in not taking a larger supply from *Dewilmurry*, and now determined to avail myself of the first opportunity that might occur, to lay in as much as we could carry.

As I expected to meet with *Brinjaries* on my way to the *Inderowty* river, I had determined to wait there until I should have laid in more grain, and procured guides who might be depended upon, for conducting us through the mountainous wilderness between it and the Company's territory. The *Goand* chief readily furnished guides from this place; but requested that I would release them, on their being relieved by other guides, at the village of *Cowlapour*, which I should meet with about two *coss* from *Rajaram*. This I faithfully promised to comply with.

APRIL 29th. WE proceeded towards the *Inderowty*, and found some *Goands* ready stationed at *Cowlapour* to relieve our guides. Perceiving likewise some *Brinjaries* in the village, I stopped to inquire of them how far distant the *Inderowty* river was; and if they thought I could reach it that day. They replied in the negative, and advised me to halt at the village of *Charrah*, and to proceed to the river on the ensuing day, where I should find some of their tribe encamped.

WITH this scheme in view I went on, and, the guides having been relieved, we moved on briskly. The path now became so slight, as to be barely perceptible,

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ceptible, and the jungle almoſt impenetrable. The hills cloſed on both ſides of us, and I had nothing but a proſpect of the moſt impenetrable and mountainous wilds before me. Our guides frequently gave us the ſlip, and we immediately loſt them in the woods; ſo that it was with difficulty we reached the village of *Charrah*. It was evident that the inhabitants we now met with, were more uncivilized than thoſe we had ſeen on our firſt entering the *Goand* territory. The only two guides who had remained with us, delivered over their charge to the people of *Charrah;* who, however, refuſed to receive it; and ſhortly after, men, women, and children, in a body, deſerted the village, and fled into the hills, and adjacent wilds. I was at a loſs to account for their ſudden departure; for, although ſome ſymptoms of diſſatisfaction, or fear, had appeared in their countenances, on our firſt arrival, they could have no cauſe for ſuch an abrupt proceeding. Our wants at this time were but few, and, in reality, conſiſted only in the neceſſity we were under of having guides to conduct us through this labyrinth of wilderneſs; but how to procure one appeared an inſurmountable difficulty, until chance threw two *Brinjaries* in our way, whom I prevailed on to remain with us, and accompany us to the next village on the enſuing day.

April 30th. Having reſolved this day to croſs the *Inderowty*, and, if poſſible, to reach *Bhopaulputtun*, we commenced our march early. The *Brinjaries*, who had not been detained without reluctance, and evident marks of fear, now ſupplicated earneſtly to be releaſed. I aſſured them that I would do ſo, as ſoon as a guide could be procured from the village of *Jaſely*, which was ſaid to be only three *coſs* diſtant, upon which they appeared to be ſomewhat pacified. I travelled on as uſual a little in front; but we had not proceeded far, when one of the *Brinjaries* informed us, that if the whole party appeared at once, the inhabitants of the village would be alarmed, and would

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certainly desert their habitations; by which our hopes of getting a guide would be frustrated: That, to prevent this, he would go on in front, with only one man, meanly clad, while the rest of the party should remain a little behind. With this scheme in view, the *Brinjary* proceeded; but had scarcely gone a hundred yards from a little hill close on our left, when he perceived a considerable body of men lying in a *nulla*, which run close under the end of the hill; and, upon our advancing, a discharge of about thirty or forty match-locks, and many arrows, was fired upon us. This made us halt; and having only two *sepoys* with me at the time, three or four servants, and the *lascar* with my perambulator, I resolved to fall back to my party. Upon our retiring, the *Goands* advanced rapidly from the *nulla* and *jungle*; and a party of them made their appearance on the top of the hill. At this instant, fortunately, I was joined by a *naick* and four *sepoys* of my advance, and immediately formed them, priming and loading in a little space of open ground on our right. As soon as the *sepoys* had loaded, I would fain have parleyed with the savages before firing; but all my endeavours towards it were ineffectual; and as they continued to rush with impetuosity towards us, with their matches lighted, and arrows fixed in their bows, they received the fire of my party at the distance of about twenty yards; when four or five of them instantly dropped. This gave them an immediate check, and they ran off, hallooing and shouting, into the woods; carrying off their killed and wounded, all but one body; and leaving some of their arms, which fell into our possession. The rest of my people having by this time joined me, I directed a party of a *naick* and four *sepoys* to drive them from the hill: this they soon effected; after which, disposing of the small force I had with me, in such a manner as it might act to most advantage if again attacked, we moved forward, with the hope of reaching *Bhopaulputtun* that night.

NOTHING

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NOTHING worthy of remark occurred until we came to the *Inderowty* river; where, not being able to find a ford, we were neceffitated to encamp on its bank. I was the more vexed at this difappointment, as it prevented our leaving the territory of the *Goand* chief whofe fubjects had treated us with fuch inhofpitality. The village of *Jafely*, which we had paffed, appeared to be deferted; and upon looking into the country around me, I could only perceive about ten huts, which were likewife defolate. As the day clofed, I difcovered, with my telefcope, three or four men with matchlocks, who feemed to be obferving us from behind a rock on the oppofite fide of the river. They hallooed to us in a language which we could not underftand; but the *Brinjaries* informed us, that they faid we fhould not be allowed to pafs the river, until they had received orders to that effect from *Bhopaulputtun*. To this I replied, that we had a pafs from the *Mahratta* government, which I would fend for the infpection of their chief next morning. In about an hour after, they hallooed again, inquiring whether we came as friends or enemies. I defired the *Brinjaries* to reply, that we were travellers who paid for what we wanted, and took no notice of any thing but our road. The found of *tom-toms* foon after apprized us, that the *Goands* were collecting, which induced me to difpofe of the cattle, and their loads, in fuch a manner as we could beft defend them if attacked: But the found ceafing, and perceiving no approach of the enemy, we laid down to reft under arms. About midnight, the noife of people paddling through the water, informed us of their approach. They appeared to be croffing the river about half a mile above us, and from the found, I judged them to be in confiderable numbers. I immediately directed all the lights to be put out, and enjoined a perfect filence. The night was exceedingly dark, which rendered it impoffible for the *Goands* to fee us, or we them, at a greater diftance than twenty yards. I fent fcouts to obferve their

 motions,

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motions, with directions to retire before them, ſhould they advance; which they did not however attempt; and, after deliberating about half an hour, they went back.

Finding the people of the country thus inhoſpitably inclined towards us, I conceived it would be hazardous to ſend a meſſenger to *Bhopaulputtun;* for, ſhould he be detained, or put to death, we might wait in vain for an anſwer, until the numbers by which we ſhould be ſurrounded would effectually cut off our retreat. The *Goands* appeared to be in full expectation of our attempting to paſs the river, which they would no doubt have reſiſted; ſo that the only way to extricate ourſelves from the preſent embarraſſing ſituation, was to retreat as faſt as poſſible by the road we had come. At midnight rain came on, which rendered the road very ſlippery for our cattle; but the weather clearing up at day break, we moved off in perfect ſilence.

May 1ſt. We had proceeded about eleven miles, without being obſerved, when the diſcharge of ſome matchlocks apprized us, that the *Goands* were at no great diſtance; and on coming to the village of *Cowlapour*, through which our road led, we found about 300 of them poſted in it, ſeemingly with a determination to diſpute the paſſage. It was now about two o'clock in the afternoon, the ſun bright, and, as uſual at this ſeaſon of the year, exceſſively hot. We had got back eighteen miles of our diſtance, and had yet eight more to go before we could reach *Rajaram;* at which place I was reſolved to take poſt for that night. The rain had retarded the progreſs of my camels, but had proved beneficial in other reſpects; for the water having collected in the hollows of the country, enabled my people to ſlake their thirſt, which the heat, and length of the march, would otherwiſe have rendered inſupportable. Upon our arrival within

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muſket ſhot of *Cowlapour*, I halted my party at a well, the only ſupply of water to the village; and deſired my people to loſe no time in refreſhing themſelves with a drink, and likewiſe to refreſh the cattle. The *Goands* ſent me repeated threats of the annihilation of my party, unleſs we could pay them a large ſum of money; to which I replied, that I would pay nothing; they having no right to demand it: and I cautioned them againſt acting in defiance to the paſs which I had in my poſſeſſion from the *Rajah* of *Nagpour;* whoſe country I was in, and whoſe ſubjects they were. Upon this they demanded to ſee it, which I readily complied with; but none of them being able to read, they appeared doubtful of its authenticity. This parley engaged us for about an hour; when the people of the village growing thirſty, were neceſſitated to beg us to let them have acceſs to the well; which, in hopes of pacifying them, we readily conſented to; but they found the water had been drained by my people; who being now refreſhed, I informed the *Goands*, that it was my determination to proceed immediately. To this they replied, that the ſon of their chief was arrived, who aſſured us, that if our paſs was authentic, we might proceed unmoleſted to *Rajarum;* where it would be further inveſtigated. This being all we required, we purſued our route, and encamped that evening, about five o'clock, at *Rajarum;* taking up our poſt at a tank. Here we found the *Goands*, who had been very friendly before, all armed, and huddled together in a few detached huts; but nothing, however, occurred to interrupt our repoſe during the night.

May 2d. With the commencement of the day we reſumed our march; but had ſcarcely loaded the cattle, and moved off the ground, when a meſſenger arrived, deſiring us to halt until the *Goand* chief of that part of the country ſhould arrive; which he ſaid would be in two or three hours. I replied, that what the chief might have to ſay to me, he could as well com-

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municate at *Dewilmurry* as at *Rajarum;* and ſo proceeded on; when the meſſenger, who appeared to be much ſurprized at our not paying obedience to the meſſage, went off. About eleven o'clock we arrived at *Dewilmurry;* and, after croſſing the river, encamped on the oppoſite ſhore, within the *Mahratta* territory. Our wants in grain having become very preſſing, the people of the village cheerfully opened their ſhops, and ſupplied us abundantly with every thing we ſtood in need of.

We had obſerved two or three men following our rear, all the way from *Rajarum;* but little ſuſpected that it was the advance of the *Goand* chief's party, who had ſent a meſſenger to us in the morning. He arrived about an hour after us at *Dewilmurry*, and immediately ſent a meſſage, requiring to ſee my paſs. It was accordingly ſent him; when he ſhewed every reſpect to it, and requeſted an interview with me, which was likewiſe agreed upon. He came about noon, eſcorted by his attendants, and, after mutual ſalutations, a converſation, through the medium of an interpreter, took place. He apologized much for the ill treatment I had received in his country; and expreſſed ſome ſatisfaction, that the people who had attacked me had met with their deſerts. He aſſured me that he had no knowledge of my intention of going through his country, or he would have provided againſt any accidents of that kind; and was grieved for what we muſt have ſuffered in our retreat during ſuch exceſſive hot weather. He concluded by expreſſing a hope that I would look over it, and not make any complaint againſt him to the government at *Nagpour.* I replied, that, not having ſuſtained any material injury, and, as he expreſſed a great deal of contrition at what had happened, I ſhould not prefer any complaint againſt him.

Upon inquiring his name, he told me it was Loll Shaw; that he had lately come from *Nagpour*, to take charge

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charge of his brother INKUT ROW's *Jagheer*, during his abſence with the *Berar Rajah*'s forces on the *Nizam*'s frontier. He then departed, requeſting permiſſion to viſit me on the enſuing day.

THE *Mahratta Aumil* in *Dewilmurry* informed us, that it was very fortunate we had loſt no time in our retreat; for, notwithſtanding the friendly aſſurances of the *Goand* chief, all his vaſſals, and every neighbouring *Goand Rajah*, had been ſummoned to co-operate with him, for the purpoſe of plundering and cutting us off; and that if we had delayed but a few hours more, our retreat would have been almoſt impoſſible.

RAJAH LOLL SHAW came again this evening, according to appointment, and was eſcorted by a numerous retinue, with their pieces loaded, and matches burning. The ſalutation being over, I inquired of him as to the nature of the country through which it was my intention to have proceeded, by *Bhopaulputtun*, to the Company's territory. He candidly informed me, that I had done well in returning; for that the road, to my party, would have been almoſt impracticable. He deſcribed the country as being very mountainous, and full of paſſes which are exceedingly ſteep: that the only travellers who ever venture through it, are a few *Brinjaries*, who experience the greateſt difficulties in their progreſs through theſe wild regions: that the inhabitants are of a more ſavage nature than any others of the *Goand* tribes; both ſexes going naked, and living entirely upon the produce of their woods: that even the people in his country, who, by communication with the *Mahrattas*, had become in ſome degree civilized, eat grain only during three months of the year, and ſubſiſt on roots, and fruits, during the remaining nine months. That after paſſing *Bhopaulputtun*, we ſhould not have been able to procure grain for our ſubſiſtence, and ſhould have

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have found no other road than a ſlender foot path, in many places almoſt impervious: that the wild *Goands* moreover would have continually haraſſed us, and we muſt have been frequently bewildered for want of a guide.

From what information I could collect, it did not appear that the want of grain in the hills, and foreſts, between us and the *Circars*, proceeded from any deficiency in the ſoil, for the trees which grow in it are large and flouriſhing; but, from the unſettled nature of the wild inhabitants, to whoſe minds a predatory life is moſt agreeable; and while they find ſuſtenance to their ſatisfaction, produced ſpontaneouſly by nature, they do not feel the neceſſity of toiling for greater luxuries. Being unacquainted with any greater enjoyment than that of roving in their wilds, as their fancy directs, they conſider the occupations of huſbandry and agriculture as ſuperfluous, and not neceſſary for their welfare.

Loll Shaw likewiſe informed me, that the *Goands* beyond his country had no matchlocks, which his people had been taught the uſe of by the *Mahrattas*; but they were all provided with bows and arrows; that they uſually fix the bow with their feet, directing the arrow and drawing the cord with their hand, and throw the arrow with preciſion to a conſiderable diſtance.

I computed that Loll Shaw's party might amount to 500 *Goands*, moſt of them large and well made men. Upon comparing them with the *ſepoys*, they appeared in no wiſe inferior to them in ſtature, but very black; and I was informed that the *Mahrattas* conſidered them as better ſoldiers than even the *Rajepoots*. In the little ſkirmiſh I had with them, I ſaw no reaſon to think ſo; but if I had had to contend with Loll Shaw's men, who were certainly better armed than thoſe who had attacked us, I might perhaps have found them a more formidable enemy.

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I HAD now no alternative in proceeding to the Company's territory, but to go more to the fouthward, by the road I have mentioned before, as leading, through the *Paloonfhah Rajah*'s country, into the *Ellore Circar*. Upon inquiring of LOLL SHAW if he could give me any information as to the fituation and views of that chief, he replied, that he was then at variance with the *Nizam;* but having once feen his *Dewan*, and being on terms of friendfhip with him, he offered to give me a letter recommending me to his care and attention. A more agreeable propofal he could not have made, and I thankfully accepted his offer; but the *Goand* chief being unable to write, fome delay occurred before a man was found who could write in the *Tellinghy* character: he then dictated the letter, and having affixed his feal to it, delivered it to me.

LOLL SHAW having voluntarily done me a kindnefs, I thought fome acknowledgment would be proper on my part. He had been very curious in examining the arms of the *fepoys* who were ftanding around me, and expreffed much furprife at the inftantaneous manner in which he had feen them difcharged. I took this opportunity of prefenting the chief with my fowling-piece, which being fired before him, he received it with every mark of gratitude and fatisfaction, and faid, that it fhould be kept in his family, as a friendly memorial of the *Fringhys;* (Europeans;) and added, that I might reft affured his *Goands* would never more offer me any moleftation. The interview had now lafted five hours until ten at night, when he rofe up to take leave, and affuring me of eternal friendfhip, departed.

MAY 3d. We returned to *Beejoor*, where we fell in again with the high road, and proceeded the fame

day

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day to *Nuggong*. The *Mahratta Aumil* at *Beejoor* readily relieved our guides, and congratulated me on my efcape from the mountains and *jungles* in which, he faid, fo many of his people had been loft, and never more heard of. He informed me, that even the *Brinjaries*, who never ventured among thefe *Goands*, until the moft folemn proteftations of fecurity were given, had in many inftances been plundered. The *Berar Rajah*, however, was much indebted to thefe travelling merchants for having conciliated, and, in fome degree, civilized a number of thofe wild people: for the traffic which they carry on among them, particularly in falt and fugar, had introduced a tafte for luxuries, which many of them now could not eafily difpenfe with. This had alfo induced them to be more induftrious in collecting the produce of their *jungles*; fuch as lac, iron ore, and other articles for barter; and had neceffitated their affording protection to the *Brinjaries*. In the courfe of this traffic, which had now lafted about twenty-five years, the defire of the *Goands* for falt and fugar had confiderably increafed; and tended more to their civilization than any other means: for before they had tafted or acquired a relifh for thofe articles, no man could venture among them; and he affured me, that it had a more powerful effect than the whole force of the *Mahratta* arms, in rendering them obedient to their government.

Soon after leaving *Beejoor*, we began gradually to defcend, and on our arrival at *Nuggong*, we found the country fo parched, that forage could not be procured; which compelled me to feed my cattle on the leaves of the *Banyan* tree,* and to increafe their allowance of dry grain. The price of grain had very much increafed fince we had left *Byragur*; but was not now to be bought at more than eight feers for a rupee. A report having reached this place, that, in the

* Ficus Bengalenfis.

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the ſkirmiſh between the *Goands* and my party, ſome hundreds had fallen on both ſides, the inhabitants had, in conſequence, taken the alarm; and it was not until I had produced my paſs, that any of them would come near us.

May 4th. We proceeded to *Ewunpilly*, a *Mahratta* poſt, on the ſouth-eaſt frontier of the *Berar Rajah*'s country, at which place, in a ſmall mud fort, were ſtationed about 200 horſe, and ſome men with matchlocks. The alarm, which, on our approach, appeared to pervade them, was ſuch, that they immediately retired into the fort; where they ſecured themſelves. I allowed my camp to be pitched, and waited till we had all taken ſome refreſhment, before I ſent my paſs for the inſpection of the commanding officer. My *Moonſhee* being then deputed with it, was refuſed admittance into the fort; and the *Mahrattas* threatened to fire upon him if he did not immediately retire. He told them, that he had come without arms, and with only a paper to ſhew to any of their party who could read; upon which, after ſome little heſitation, they allowed him to come to the gate. When they had inſpected the paſs, they ſaid it was a very old one, and declared that it muſt be a counterfeit; for, *from what part of the Engliſh territory could I have come?* They then very angrily told the man to go away, and to give them no further trouble. I was much vexed at their inhoſpitable conduct, and ſent him once more to reaſon with them upon the conſequences of acting in defiance to the order and ſeal of the *Berar Rajah*; and to tell them, that if they would not comply with the terms preſcribed in it, I ſhould wait at *Ewunpilly*, and diſpatch an account of their conduct to the *Subahdar* of *Seepour*, who reſided only at the diſtance of ten *coſs* weſtward. It was not, however, until ſeveral hours had elapſed, that they could be perſuaded we were not an enemy: but towards noon, they came out of the fort, and by the evening were quite pacified. At this time the *Mahratta* officer on command came

to

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to pay me a viſit. I chided him for his alarm; to which he very reaſonably replied, that circumſpection in his ſituation was but proper; for, as the *Nizam* had many *Fringhys* in his ſervice, how was he to know that I was not one of them. As it was not my intereſt to enter into further altercation with him on the ſubject, and his fears ſeemed to have ſubſided, I began to interrogate him concerning the extent of the *Mahratta* territory to the ſouthward; and aſked him if he would venture to recommend me to the care and attention of the *Nizam*'s officers in the adjoining diſtrict of *Chinnoor.* He replied, that the *Mahratta* territory extended only three *coſs* further; and that his *Rajah* being then at war with the *Nizam*, he could not venture to enter into any correſpondence with his people. He then confirmed the accounts I had before received, of the whole diſtrict of *Chinnoor* being deſolate.

Having now no other alternative, but to proceed by that route; and reflecting on the frequent inſtances in which I had been diſtreſſed for want of guides; I inſtructed ſome of my people to endeavour to get three or four intelligent men, who ſhould engage to accompany us to *Ellore*, or *Rajamandry;* and to promiſe, at the ſame time, that they ſhould be paid very largely for it. I conſidered that if the *Paloonſhah Rajah* ſhould prove hoſtile, nothing but this would enable me to puſh through his country with rapidity, or any tolerable ſucceſs. The difficulty of our ſituation ſeemed indeed to be impreſſed upon the whole party, and every man in it appeared to intereſt himſelf in our mutual welfare. They cheerfully ſubmitted to ſuch hardſhips as the neceſſity of the caſe required, particularly in agreeing to carry grain through the wilderneſs we had to traverſe. Three *Mahratta Brinjaries* were at length prevailed upon to conduct us to *Rajamandry;* whoſe demands for compenſation were enormous; yet I was neceſſitated to comply with them; and the *Mahratta* officer

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officer in command, being applied to for the reſponſibility of their conduct, ſaid he would anſwer for their fidelity.

MAY 5th. HAVING now ſupplied ourſelves with grain for ſeven days, we reſumed our journey. The road led along the weſt bank of the *Baun Gunga* river, through a very wild country; and we had no ſooner paſſed the *Mahratta* boundary, than we entered a thick foreſt. The mountains appeared to come cloſe down to the eaſt bank of the river, and every proſpect I had of them ſeemed to coincide with the accounts I had received of the wild country in that quarter. Soon after croſſing the confines, I heard the ſound of *tom-toms* for a conſiderable diſtance, which was evidently a ſignal of alarm; and as we proceeded, the ruins of ſeveral villages occurred. About eleven o'clock, the ſun being intenſely hot, and there being no water near the road, I was under the neceſſity of halting, until my people, and cattle, could be refreſhed with water from the *Baun Gunga*. That river was in general from half a mile to a mile from the road, but being ſeparated from us by a thick foreſt, it was with difficulty we could penetrate to it. Having proceeded about ſeventeen miles to the ruins of the little village of *Unnar*, I halted at that place, until three in the afternoon. The extreme heat of the day would have induced me to halt here for the night; but it was neceſſary to proceed, and to croſs the *Godavery* before dark, in order that the *Nizam*'s people might not have time to obſtruct our paſſage. The road continued gradually deſcending, and the ſoil was now wholly rock and coarſe ſand. Upon our arrival near the *Godavery*, I diſcovered a large fort upon an eminence, at the confluence of the *Baun Gunga*; and with my glaſs could perceive a white flag. The ſound of *tom-toms* ſoon after apprized us, that although the villages were deſerted, the woods were full of men; and that the peo-

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ple at their alarm pofts were on the watch. On coming to the river, we difcovered feveral fmall parties of matchlockmen fcattered along the fands in its bed. I halted to collect my party, and finding the ftream very fhallow, we croffed over without moleftation, and encamped in a clear fpot of ground on the fouthern bank.

I MIGHT now be faid to have entered upon that part of India which is known by the name of *Tellingana*, the inhabitants of which are called *Tellinghys*, and fpeak a language peculiar to themfelves. This dialect appears to bear a ftrong refemblance to what, in the *Circars*, is called *Gentoos*.

AFTER the heat of the day, and length of the march, our fituation clofe to the river had a very refrefhing and pleafing effect. I was highly delighted with the romantic view which the confluence of the *Godavery* and *Baun Gunga* rivers now prefented. I could fee quite up to the fort of *Suruncha;* and an opening beyond it likewife fhewed the junction of the *Inderowty* river with the latter. The blue mountains, and diftant forefts, which terminated the profpect, rendered the whole a very fublime and interefting fcene.

THERE is here a fmall *Pagoda* facred to the *Hindoo* goddefs *Cali*, fituated on the north-eaft bank of the river, at the confluence; which imparts its name to this paffage over the *Gunga Godavery*, called *Califair ghaut;* and annually draws a great concourfe of pilgrims, who, from ideas of purification, come to wafh in the waters of the confluent ftreams.*

THE bed of the *Godavery* at this *ghaut* is about a mile in breadth, and confifted at this feafon of a wide expanfe of fand. The quantity of water, where we croffed

* The confluences of all the principal rivers throughout *Hindooftan*, as well as their fources, are places of *Hindoo* worfhip and fuperftition; and to thefe many thoufands of pilgrims annually refort.

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croffed it, was inconfiderable; being divided into four or five little ftreams, the fum of whofe widths did not exceed one hundred feet, and was no where more than fifteen inches deep.

May 6th. We commenced our march along the weftern bank of the *Godavery*. On paffing the ruins of the town of *Califair*, I could perceive the remains of an old fort, a mofque, and a *Muffulman*'s tomb. I was informed that this place had been the refidence of the *Nizam*'s officer who had formerly been intrufted with the charge of the diftrict of *Chinnoor;* and who having joined the *Zemeendar* in refifting the *Nizam*'s government, had afterwards fallen a victim to his treachery. My march this day was through a thick foreft, gradually defcending the whole way; and terminated at a fort, around which there had formerly been a confiderable town, called *Mahadeopour;* but which, excepting a fmall number of armed men, and a few miferable *Tellinghy* inhabitants, appeared now to be defolate. The fort had a double rampart and *foffe*, and had evidently been a place of fome ftrength. The innumerable marks of cannon fhots on the walls, indicated that it had ftood a fiege, and had alfo made a confiderable refiftance. We had no fooner encamped, than a man came out to inquire for news of the *Nizam*'s and *Mahratta* armies, and what was likely to be the iffue of the war; but not finding his curiofity gratified, he returned.

May 7th. After leaving this place, we proceeded twenty-three miles, and encamped near a well on a fmall fpot of open ground in the *jungle*. Many deferted villages occurred on the march; and the road was for the moft part over a heavy fand, without a drop of water near it. The periodical rains having failed in this part of the country for feveral years,

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the tanks, wells, and reſervoirs, had moſtly dried up, which rendered the heat and length of our journey this day the more diſtreſſing. The extreme thirſt of my people and cattle ſoon exhauſted the little water we found in the well, and the river being five miles diſtant, and ſeparated from us by a ridge of hills, was conſequently out of our reach. Luckily the guides whom we had brought from *Ewunpilly*, and who had frequently travelled this road, informed us, that about the diſtance of a mile, there were a few *Goand* huts, the inhabitants of which were ſupplied with water from a ſpring. We ſet out immediately in ſearch of it, and, to our great joy, found it was not dried up; and, on digging a little in the ſand, abundance of water flowed out.

MARCHING at this ſeaſon, in the heat of the day, oppreſſed us exceedingly; but the unſettled ſtate of the country, and the probable riſk of being attacked, rendered it unavoidable. Although the road was a beaten one, and tolerably clear of bruſh-wood, yet the foreſt on each ſide being exceſſively thick, might, if we had moved in the dark, have enabled an enemy to come upon us unawares: whereas, by travelling in the day, and taking our ground in a clear ſpot, we were always in a ſituation to defend ourſelves with advantage. The women and children who had accompanied the *ſepoys*, and who, at the commencement of our journey, had been accuſtomed to ride, were now, from the reduced ſtate of the cattle, compelled to walk. They appeared, however, to be fully impreſſed with the neceſſity of the caſe; and although they would have ſuffered leſs by travelling in the cool of the night, yet they muſt have created conſiderable confuſion, in caſe of an attack at that time; excluſive of which conſiderations, the day-light was eſſentially neceſſary to my geographical purſuits.

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MAY 8th. WE reached the *Paloonſhah Rajah*'s frontier, and our journey terminated at the village of *Etoor*, where we fell in once more with the *Godavery*.

MAY 9th. PROCEEDED to *Naugwarrum*. When we came within two miles of this place, the beating of *tom-toms*, and blowing of horns, again apprized us of an armed force being in the woods. Our guides informed us that it was the alarm poſts of CUMMUNY BOOEY, a *Zemeendar* of *Naugwarrum*, and vaſſal to ASHRUFF ROW, the *Rajah* of *Paloonſhah*. They adviſed me to proceed with caution; and, being known to his people, they propoſed to go on firſt, and inform them who we were. I halted to collect my party; and ſoon after one of the guides, who had gone forward to the village, returned with an account that the people would not credit a word he had ſaid, but had abuſed him; and that the inhabitants were all armed, and aſſembled to oppoſe us. Having no alternative but to proceed, I advanced with my party, and took a circuit by the river to avoid the village. The reſt of my people followed in the rear; and as we did not paſs within reach of their fire arms, they continued to gaze at us without attempting to offer any hoſtility, or to quit their poſt. We then took up our ground on the bank of the river; and as ſoon as the camp was pitched, I advanced with two of our guides, and a few of the *ſepoys*, towards the village. We beckoned to ſome of the villagers to come forward, when a few of them came out to meet us, and finding we were not enemies, their alarm immediately ſubſided. They informed us that the reaſon of their keeping up theſe poſts was to be on their guard againſt the *Goands*, who, at this ſeaſon, while the river is low, ſometimes take the opportunity of croſſing, and ſurprizing them in the night. The rapine and murder which they had ſuffered by theſe ſudden attacks, kept the *Tellinghys* in conſtant alarm.

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This afternoon, perceiving a little eminence, not far from our camp, which seemed to present a favorable situation for viewing the country, I went to it; and was much gratified with a prospect of about fifteen miles of the course of the *Godavery*. Immense ranges of mountains, and forests, appeared to extend from *Suruncha*, along the east side of the river, to the quarter opposite this place; and thence to the south-eastward as far as the eye could reach. The wild scenery which now presented itself, and the rugged appearance of the mountains, made me reflect with satisfaction on having relinquished the attempt of penetrating through a country, where every imaginable difficulty and danger must have been encountered; and in which, perhaps, our whole party would have been cut off.

Our guides, who, in consideration of the very large recompence I had offered them, had undertaken to conduct us into the *Ellore Circar*, were now exceedingly cautious of shewing themselves in the villages; and whenever grain, or any other article, was to be purchased, it was with the utmost reluctance that they could be persuaded to interpret and deal for us with the *Tellinghys*. They alledged, that should they be recognized, they would undoubtedly, on their return, be seized and put to death.

At *Etoor* we met some people, conducting about forty carts loaded with cotton, who, we were told, had come from *Chanda;* and were proceeding to the manufactories at *Maddapollom* in the Company's territory. Their cattle having suffered much from the heat, and want of water, they had halted at this place to refresh, previous to the continuance of their journey. It was pleasing to meet with travellers subject to our own government in this inhospitable country; and this circumstance evidently shewed, that the road had long been frequented. I was informed, that

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in ſeaſons when water and grain are in abundance, the *Brinjaries* frequently paſs this way from the ſea coaſt to *Chanda*.

MAY 10th. I PROCEEDED to *Mangapeit*, which is the head of a ſmall *Purgunnah* bearing the ſame name, and is the reſidence of the *Paloonſhah Rajah*'s officer NARRAIN ROW. This is a large village, ſituated cloſe on the weſt bank of the *Godavery*, and has a little mud fort in the middle of it. On coming to this place, we perceived a conſiderable body of armed men, who, ſoon after our arrival, appeared extremely hoſtile, and uttered a variety of threats againſt us, of impriſonment and deſtruction to the whole party. My followers were much intimidated thereby; but, to prevent the panic increaſing, I ordered the camp to be ſtruck, and prepared for battle. The effect of this was very viſible in the immediate alteration of their conduct towards us; and the altercation ended by an interview with NARRAIN ROW. He was much ſurpriſed at the prelude to our converſation, by my preſenting him with the letter from LOLL SHAW; and had no ſooner peruſed it, than our affairs began to wear a better aſpect. Being a *Tellinghy*, and ſpeaking no other language, we could only converſe through the medium of an interpreter; from whom I ſoon underſtood, that he propoſed to purchaſe my *Toorky* horſe. I anſwered, that I was not a merchant, and could not aſſent to his propoſal. He then ſaid, that ſuch a fine animal had never come into his country, and begged to know if I would part with it upon any other terms; as he wiſhed to preſent it to his young *Rajah*, who was very fond of horſes. Upon this my interpreter informed him, that I could give no poſitive anſwer for the preſent; but that if he would ſend a reſpectable man with me as far as the Company's territory, which I hoped to reach at furtheſt in ſeven days, I ſhould then have leſs occaſion for the very uſeful ſervices of the animal, and might feel leſs reluctance to part with

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him. Finding he could not prevail on me to ſell him the *Toorky*, he then tried to purchaſe a little horſe belonging to the *Jemadar* of my eſcort, and one of the *ſepoy's tattoos*. As the animals were much reduced, and a good price was offered, bargains were very near being concluded; when conceiving it might create a ſuſpicion of our being on a trading concern, I immediately put a ſtop to the traffic; and as they did not offer any impediment to my proceeding, I ordered the cattle to be loaded, and we moved off, leaving NARRAIN ROW and his people ſomewhat diſappointed.

THE mountains continue cloſe down to the eaſt ſide of the *Godavery*, oppoſite this place; and the wild inhabitants ſometimes extend their depredations into the country on this ſide of the river. The *Tellinghys* detailed to us ſome horrid acts of barbarity that had attended the pillaging of their village by the *Goands*: theſe, they ſaid, were always committed by ſecret nocturnal expeditions; in which the mountaineers had frequently eluded the vigilance of their alarm poſts, and ſurprized the villagers while at reſt; and neither the defenceleſs perſons of women, or children, had, in ſuch caſes, eſcaped their ſavage fury. Their weapons are bows and arrows, hatchets, and lances.

HAVING afterwards heard of a people, who, in the Northern *Circars*, are called *Coands*, and whoſe depredations into thoſe provinces are attended with ſimilar acts of cruelty, I naturally conceived them to be the ſame tribe; but, in a converſation with CUMAUL MAHUMMED, the officer in charge of the *Mahratta Purgunnah* of *Manickpatam*; and who appeared to be well acquainted with the different tribes of mountaineers ſubject to the *Berar* government; he informed me, that theſe are a different race from the *Goands*. The latter, he ſaid, are much larger men, and had, in

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in many inſtances, been made good ſubjects; but the *Coands* are inferior in ſtature, and ſo wild, that every attempt which had been made to civilize them had proved ineffectual. I never indeed met with a people who ſhewed leſs inclination to hold converſe of any kind with ſtrangers, than theſe mountaineers in general. This diſpoſition in a great meaſure fruſtrated every attempt I made to acquire information of their manners and cuſtoms; among which the ſacrifice of birds, by ſuſpending them by the tips of their wings to the trees and buſhes, on each ſide of the road, and leaving them to periſh by degrees, was almoſt the only peculiar one I could diſcover. The cauſe of this cruel practice I never could learn; yet I frequently obſerved, that although the birds were ſuſpened at a convenient height for travellers to paſs under them, the *Goands* would never do ſo; but always took a circuit to avoid them. I once obſerved a ram extended by the feet in the ſame manner. Their food appeared to be the moſt ſimple imaginable, conſiſting chiefly of the roots and produce of their woods. They go for the moſt part naked; and when pinched by cold, they alleviate it by making fires, for which their foreſts ſupply them with abundance of fuel; and when the heat of the ſun becomes oppreſſive, they ſeek ſhelter, and recline under the ſhade of large trees.

MAY 14th. HAVING met with no moleſtation during the three preceding marches, we arrived this day at *Nainpour*; where we encamped in a tope of *Palmyra** trees, cloſe to the weſt bank of the *Godavery* river, and oppoſite to the town of *Badrachill*. At this place, the *Rajah* of *Paloonſhah* collects taxes upon all goods paſſing through his country by this road; and there were at this time about two hundred *Hackerys*,† and a prodigious number of bullocks, detained, until the duties

* *Boraſſus Flabelliformis*. † Country carts.

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duties on the goods which they carried ſhould be aſſeſſed, and paid. This amounted to not leſs than twenty five *per cent.* The merchandize was cotton, which the *Mahrattas* were exporting into the *Circars*; in exchange for which commodity they uſually import ſalt, and coco nuts, into *Chanda*, *Nagpour*, and other parts of *Berar*.

THE hills which border the eaſt bank of the *Godavery*, from *Mangapeit* to this place, are of a moderate height; and the mountains appeared now to retire about ſeven miles inland. The ſpace between the two ranges is covered with a thick foreſt.

THERE is a *Pagoda* at *Badrachill*, ſacred to SETA, the conſort of RAMA. The worſhip of the goddeſs is in high repute at this place; and vaſt numbers of pilgrims reſort to it. The temple is ſituated on a little hill about forty feet high; but is meanly conſtructed. I was informed that the *Rajah* of *Paloonſhah* had recently preſented a ſmall golden idol, or *moorut*, to it. The town is ſituated about 200 yards to the ſouthward of the *Pagoda*, cloſe under another little hill, and conſiſts of about one hundred huts, in the middle of which was a tiled habitation, ſaid to be the abode of the principal *Brahmen*; and the whole is ſurrounded by a thick *jungle*. From the great reputation of this place, I expected to have found a more conſiderable town, and was therefore much ſurprized at its mean appearance.

SOON after our arrival, the man in charge of the poſt came to our encampment, and propoſed to purchaſe the horſes and camels. To this he received a ſevere rebuke, and was told that we were not merchants. Finding, after many fruitleſs attempts, that none of the cattle were to be ſold, he then began to aſſeſs duties on them; which neceſſitated my giving directions for his being turned out of camp. After this,

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this, we had no further intercourse with him; but it was evident that he had dispatched several expresses to *Paloonshah*, with information concerning us, as NARRAIN ROW, I afterwards found, had done from *Mangapeit*.

MAY 15th. At day-break we moved off, in high spirits, at the prospect of the speedy respite which our arrival in the Company's territory, in three days more, would give to our toils. I had observed, since our entrance into the *Paloonshah Rajah's* territory, many *Teak* trees;* but none from which timbers of large dimensions could be formed. Being told that we should not meet with any more after this day's march, I was giving directions to a *lascar* to cut half a dozen sticks, when a horseman rode up to me, and said, that I should do well to return and encamp; for the *Rajah* having heard of my entering his country, had sent a *Vakeel* to know by what authority I had presumed to do so. I asked him his name and occupation. He replied, that his name was MORTIZALLY, and that he commanded a body of *Tellinghys* in the *Rajah* of *Paloonshah's* service; a party of whom would soon arrive with the *Vakeel*. I expressed much aversion to countermarch any part of the distance I had come that day, and proposed to proceed, and encamp at the first convenient spot where water and forage could be procured; and to wait there for the arrival of the *Vakeel*. After some altercation this was agreed upon; when we proceeded about two miles further, and encamped at a small village called *Pocullapilly*.

IN an hour after, the *Vakeel* arrived, attended by about fifty armed men. He informed me that he was deputed by the *Rajah* of *Paloonshah* to ascertain who I was, and to inquire by what authority I was passing through his territory. I shewed him the *Mahratta* pass,

* *Tectona Grandis.*

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paſs, which would preciſely afford him that information. He deſired I would give him the papers; and if I had any paſs from the *Nizam*, that I would likewiſe deliver it into his hands; in order that they might be forwarded for the inſpection of the *Rajah*, whoſe pleaſure would ſoon be communicated, regarding me, and my people. I replied, I had no paſs from the *Nizam*, but that he might have copies of ſuch of my papers as he had ſeen; and added, that being within two days journey of the Britiſh territory, and my buſineſs urgent, I hoped the *Rajah* would not detain me unneceſſarily; but would allow me to proceed as ſoon as poſſible. The *Vakeel* then retired with my *Moonſhee* to copy the papers, aſſuring me that I ſhould have an anſwer before night.

Matters remained in this ſtate until about four o'clock in the afternoon, when I received information that a large body of men were poſted at the paſs of *Soondpilly Gundy*, through which our road was to lead, with orders to reſiſt us in caſe we ſhould attempt to force our way to the Company's frontier. The accounts of this force varied from one to three thouſand men. I had reſolved to wait the reſult of the *Rajah's* inſpection of the copy of my *Mahratta Purwannah*, before I ſhould determine upon any other plan of action; and knowing that I had not done his country, or any of his people, the leaſt injury, and that he could have no juſt plea for moleſting me, I was not without hope that he would let me proceed. In a few minutes after, the ſound of horſes' feet induced me to look out of my tent; when a body of horſemen inſtantly gallopped in between the tent ropes. My people were at this time repoſing in the ſhade, during the heat of the day, all but two ſentries, who were on guard, and who immediately on the alarm came running to my tent. I diſpatched a man to call the *Vakeel*, while the *ſepoys*, who were very alert, got under arms; and I ſoon joined them with the other two men, being prepared for the worſt that could happen. I

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now desired the horsemen to retire, and inquired the meaning of their intruding upon us in so abrupt a manner. The man who commanded came forward, and said that he had his *Rajah's* orders to take me to *Paloonshah*. At this instant the *Vakeel* arrived. I asked him the meaning of these measures, after matters had been adjusted on the faith of his word, and I was waiting till the *Rajah's* pleasure should be made known to me. I requested, that, to prevent hostilities commencing immediately, he would order the horsemen to fall back. He advanced towards them for that purpose, which gave me an opportunity of ascertaining their number; when I counted twenty-five, all well armed and mounted; but in their rear was a large body of infantry, many of whom were armed with European muskets and bayonets; and the whole might have amounted to three hundred men.

HAD this been all the force they could have brought against me, I should have paid very little attention to the *Rajah* or his people; but if this body should annoy us in the rear, and I had had to force my way through the pass of *Scondpilly Gundy*, it was not probable, that, with my small escort, consisting only of thirty-two firelocks, I could have come off without the loss at least of my baggage. As the *Paloonshah* district joined to the Company's territory, it impressed me strongly with the idea, that when it should be ascertained that I was a servant of the *British* government, the *Rajah* would not venture to do me any material injury, unless my conduct should justify it by first commencing hostilities.

THE horsemen being now retired, the *Vakeel* came back, and begged that I would be pacified; upon which I ordered the *sepoys* to sit down with their arms, and went with a small party to my tent. The *Vakeel* then explained to me the cause of the sudden appearance of the troops. It had been occasioned, he said, by a report which had reached *Paloonshah*, of my

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having, in defiance of the *Rajah's* orders, intended to force my way to the Company's frontier. That he, being much incenfed at the difrefpect fhewn to his authority, had fent this detachment to bring my party to *Paloonfhah;* and in the event of our refifting, had given orders to plunder and harafs us; which would delay our progrefs, until a man fhould arrive at the poft of *Soondpilly Gundy*, with inftructions to fell the trees in the road, and ftockade the pafs.

THE man in command of the troops having difmounted, came with MORTIZALLY into my tent; when we commenced a converfation upon the meafures which were to be purfued. They at firft infifted upon my inftantly complying with the orders they had received to carry me to *Paloonfhah*. This I pofitively refufed, alledging, that we had come a long march that day, and were not in a condition to undertake a fecond. I told them, that I had no objection to go to *Paloonfhah* the next day; but that, if the *Rajah* thought I would fubmit to be treated in the fmalleft degree beneath that dignity and refpect which he might think due to his own perfon, he would find himfelf miftaken; for I would fooner burn the whole of my baggage, to prevent its falling into his poffeffion; and would contend with him to the utmoft of my ability in forcing a paffage to the Company's frontier. I added, that the *Rajah's* country being contiguous to our own, he muft be well aware of our military reputation. To thefe obfervations they feemed in fome degree to affent; but replied, that fuch meafures had been taken to prevent our efcape, that it would be impoffible for us to effect it; and that I fhould do well to go to *Paloonfhah*, where, they did not doubt, the *Rajah* would fhew me every attention. Finding, however, that I was determined not to move any more that day, they agreed that we fhould commence our march to *Paloonfhah* early the enfuing morning.

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THE *Rajah's* people now retired to the village, where they took up their abode for the night. As ſoon as they were gone, I ordered the camp to be ſtruck, the cattle to be picketted, and the baggage to be piled up around them; and then diſtributed my people in four parties, ſo as to form nearly a ſquare. I had choſen on our arrival a commanding ſituation; and we had a well of fine water within twenty-five yards, which would have been completely under our fire. Thus ſituated, and having with us grain for five days, the *Rajah's* people would not have found it an eaſy matter to make any ſerious impreſſion on the party. But our greateſt want was ammunition, having not more than fifty rounds each man; which, had hoſtilities commenced, would in all probability have been expended in the firſt conteſt. My followers were impreſſed with a conſiderable degree of alarm at our ſituation, and the women ſet up a moſt diſmal lamentation. To put a ſtop to the panic was abſolutely neceſſary; but it was not till every conciliatory meaſure had been exhauſted, and threats uſed, that I could oblige them to keep their fears to themſelves, and weep in ſilence. The *ſepoys*, however, ſeemed to take the matter very coolly, which enabled me, after giving them directions to wake me on the firſt alarm, to lay down to reſt with ſome confidence. Their alertneſs, I found, did not a little diſturb the *Rajah's* people who were encamped in the village; but the whole night paſſed without any ſerious occurrence.

MAY 16th. EARLY this morning I ſent notice to the *Rajah's* people that we were ready to attend them to *Paloonſhah;* and ſoon after we all moved off in ſeparate parties. The road for the firſt ſix miles was through a thick foreſt; and ſo narrow, that our cattle travelled with much difficulty: We then fell into a high road, and moved on pretty briſkly. During the march, MORTIZALLY frequently came up to me, and ſeemed to be greatly taken with my horſe; an account of which, I afterwards found, had been communicated

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to the *Rajah*. When arrived within ſix miles of *Paloonſhah*, a range of hills ſeemed to cloſe upon us, and we came to the top of a very conſiderable acclivity. I now found that we had been deceived in the diſtance; for inſtead of five *coſs*, as they had told us, it proved to be ſixteen miles. The ſun began to be intenſely hot, and the thirſt of my people became almoſt inſupportable. At the top of the paſs were ſeveral batteries for the defence of this approach to *Paloonſhah;* and we perceived a circular cavity, which fortunately proved to be a *Bowlie*, that had been ſunk, in this elevated region, for ſupplying the poſt with water. Many of the party, with a view to ſlake their thirſt, deſcened into it. The deſcent was by a ſet of circular ſteps, of which they counted one hundred: Theſe being rudely formed, and about two feet each in depth, rendered the approach to the water ſo difficult and laborious, that ſeveral of the men were induced to return before they had gone half way; and thoſe who had reached the bottom, found themſelves but little benefitted by it, after the fatigue of re-aſcending. I computed the depth of the well to be at leaſt 180 feet.

From this place we began to deſcend by a road, in ſome parts eaſy, and ſteep in others; though in the aggregate the deſcent was very conſiderable. Our march having hitherto been in a thick foreſt, the proſpect of the town and fort of *Paloonſhah*, ſituated in a rich and luxuriant valley, now became very pleaſing. We paſſed a barrier which defends the approach to the town, and conſiſts of a ſtrong rampart, faced with maſonry, which is connected with the hills on the eaſt ſide of it. A narrow and rocky defile, winding round the weſt ſide of the rampart, is the only entrance to the valley.

We advanced to a very fine mango grove, and halted under the ſhade of the trees until the *Rajah* ſhould be made acquainted with our arrival; and

a place

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a place pointed out for us to encamp on. This gave me an opportunity of obferving the weft fide of the town and fort, which were now only half a mile diftant. A man foon arrived, and fhewed us a fpot to encamp on, which was about a mile further to the fouth-eaftward, in a mango grove, and near the bank of a rivulet in which a little ftream was flowing. This cool and pleafant fituation, with the romantic appearance of the hills, which rofe immediately behind us, diffipated in a great meafure the difagreeable reflections which had been caufed by our compulfory vifit to this place.

We had no fooner encamped, than the *Rajah* fent Mortizally to congratulate me on my arrival, and to exprefs his folicitude for the inconvenience I muft have fuffered from the heat; likewife to inform me, that when I fhould have refrefhed myfelf, and taken fome repofe, he would fend people to inquire into the reafon of my coming into his country, and afcertain who I actually was. No further occurrence worthy of remark happened during the reft of the day; excepting the pofting of a body of about 500 men between us and the fort; I was therefore at leifure to direct my attention to the fcene around me.

The valley in which *Paloonfhah* is fituated, is about four miles wide, and, notwithftanding the failure of the periodical rains, had every appearance of verdure and fertility. The fort is a fquare of about 300 yards, and has a large round tower at each angle. The entrance to it is on the eaft fide. The rampart is faced with mafonry, and is furrounded by a deep dry ditch. It is well covered with a glacis, and may be confidered as a place of fome ftrength. With my telefcope I could perceive fome large iron guns in the embrafures; which, the *Rajah's* people faid, were twelve pounders that he had brought from *Mafuli-*

 patam.

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patam. The *Rajah's* dwelling is a ſmall *Hindooſtanny* houſe, the top of which I could ſee above the walls. The town was by far the largeſt I had ſeen ſince leaving *Chunarghur*, and appeared to be very populous. It is at leaſt two miles in circumference, but conſiſts, for the moſt part, of poor *Tellinghy* huts. The valley is ſurrounded on all ſides by lofty ranges of hills, the paſſes through which are the only acceſſes to *Paloonſhah.*

Some of my people, who had been admitted into the arſenal, reported that they had ſeen a manufacture for matchlock guns, *jinjalls*,* ſpears, ſabres, and every ſpecies of weapon commonly uſed by the natives. The *Rajah* had likewiſe a train of ſix braſs field pieces, which, with their limbers and tumbrils complete, appeared to be well taken care of.

In the evening the *Vakeel*, accompanied by three or four well dreſſed men, came to my tent. He detailed a number of incidents relative to the deſperate ſituation of the *Fringhys* in the *Circars*, and repreſented the removal of the troops about that time from *Ellore* to *Maſulipatam*, for a more healthy ſituation, as a defeat and flight, previous to embarkation; and the return of the two battalions from *Hydrabad* as a certain omen of deſtruction to the Britiſh intereſts in that part of India: and he concluded by informing me, that it was the *Rajah's* intention to ſend the whole of my party to *Hydrabad.* Finding theſe ſchemes to intimidate me had not the deſired effect, and that, as I was acquainted with the *Nizam's* capital, and the characters of his principal officers, I had no objection to march towards it the enſuing morning, their aſtoniſhment was ſo great, that they immediately departed to make a report thereof to the *Rajah.*

Towards night, we repeated the precaution we had taken for our defence, on the preceding evening, at *Pocullapilly.* This created a great alarm, and they immediately

* A wall piece, carrying a ball of near a pound weight.

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immediately reinforced the parties that had been ſtationed to guard the avenues to the fort. The whole of the troops which were now applied to this purpoſe, could not be leſs than 1500 men; which ſhewed that, notwithſtanding their great ſuperiority in numbers, the *Rajah* was under no ſmall apprehenſion at our ſituation ſo near his fortreſs. The whole night however paſſed without any alarm.

MAY 17th. THIS morning the *Vakeel* came to me with a requeſt, that I would ſend my *Toorky* horſe, and three ſheep which I had brought with me from *Chunarghur*, for the *Rajah's* inſpection. This I readily complied with; and at the ſame time demanded an interview with the *Rajah*, and permiſſion to depart; alledging, that my buſineſs was very urgent, and would admit of no further delay. In about an hour the horſe was returned, with a very polite meſſage from the *Rajah*, expreſſing how much he had been gratified by the ſight of ſo beautiful an animal; and requeſting to know if any thing would induce me to part with him: but as the evening had been appointed for the interview, I deferred returning an anſwer until that period ſhould arrive. In the mean time the *Rajah* had detained my ſheep, which, having tails, were conſidered here as great curioſities; and had ſent me three others in return, the produce of his country, on whom nature had not beſtowed that curious appendage. The man who had taken charge of them, having intimated that we were badly off for forage, about fifty bundles of graſs were immediately ſent to us.

TOWARDS evening the numerous concourſe of people who aſſembled round the fort, with all the cavalry that could be muſtered, and two elephants capariſoned with ſcarlet, and carrying *howders*, announced to me the preparation for an interview with the *Rajah*. My

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tent having been appointed for the place of meeting, I was apprehenſive that ſo large a body of people would incommode us exceedingly; but was ſoon relieved from this apprehenſion by a meſſage from the *Rajah*, deſiring that the interview might take place in a garden, at a ſmall diſtance from our encampment, called *Khauſsbaug*. This was a very pleaſing circumſtance; and ſoon after the whole cavalcade paſſed my tent, the horſemen *manoeuvering* and diſplaying their agility. The noiſe of drums, horns, and trumpets, was immenſe. The *Rajah* was mounted on a very fine elephant, preceded by a ſmall one, which they told me carried the water of the *Ganges* before him.* The multitude had no ſooner paſſed, than I followed with about fifty attendants; and upon my arrival at the garden, I found the *Rajah* and his people had juſt diſmounted. The crowd having opened to admit me, I found him ſeated in a Chineſe chair, with a number of good looking and well dreſſed men around him. He roſe up to ſalute me, which I returned, and ſeated myſelf likewiſe. He appeared to be a handſome young man, about twenty years of age, and was very elegantly dreſſed. He began by putting many pertinent queſtions to me concerning *Hydrabad*, the *Nizam*, his miniſter, and the principal officers of his empire; with a view to find out if what I had aſſerted the preceding evening was true. My anſwers convinced him that I was much better acquainted with the *Nizam's* court, and with the characters of his principal officers, than he was; and particularly with the hiſtory of DHOUNSAH, the officer who formerly poſſeſſed the *Nizam's Purgunnahs* of *Neermul* and *Edilabad;* and who had almoſt ruined the *Rajah's* father, and family, by pillaging his country, and ſubverting his intereſts at *Hydrabad*.

As

* The cuſtom of carrying the water of the *Ganges* to the remoteſt parts of *India* is very common; and the rich *Hindoos* are at a conſiderable expence to obtain it. The *Rajah's* people endeavoured to impreſs me with a high notion of his ſanctity as a *Brahmen;* but I found, on inquiry, that he was only of the *Elmy* caſt, correſponding nearly with the *Rajepoots* of *Hindooſtan*.

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As I ſuſpected that the beauty of my horſe had been the principal cauſe of our being brought to *Paloonſhah*, I now took the opportunity of preſenting him to the *Rajah*. His ſatisfaction at this event was warmly expreſſed; and he immediately deſired I would make myſelf perfectly eaſy; for I ſhould be at liberty to depart on the enſuing day. This was all I wanted; and the interview ending ſoon after, a large quantity of coco nuts, and mangos, were ſent me; and I retired, heartily pleaſed with the proſpect of marching on the following morning. But my troubles did not end here; for ſome of the Company's *Zemeendars* who had been in confinement at *Madras*, had, about this time, made their eſcape, and arrived at *Paloonſhah*. They had ſo much influence in prepoſſeſſing the *Rajah* againſt me, that the whole of the enſuing day was ſpent in procuring a ſupply of grain, and guides to direct us acroſs the country into the high road that leads to the Company's frontier.

OUR departure was conſequently delayed until the morning of the 19th, when MORTIZALLY, and the *Vakeel*, whoſe good offices I had, in ſome meaſure, been neceſſitated to purchaſe, adviſed me to loſe no time in quitting the *Rajah's* territory; for the people who had lately eſcaped from *Madras*, might ſo far prejudice him againſt us, as to induce him to throw further obſtacles in our way. I could not, however, get away from *Paloonſhah* before eight o'clock; for, at my departure, every houſehold ſervant belonging to the *Rajah* came out, in expectation of ſome gratuity. Having at length got rid of their importunities, we ſet out, accompanied by MORTIZALLY, and the *Vakeel*; who, when he had proceeded about a mile, delivered over a guide to direct us; and after preſenting me a paſſport to ſhew to the *Rajah's* people, at the poſt of *Dommapett*, they took their leave.

OUR

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OUR *Mahratta* guides, who had accompanied us from *Ewunpilly*, were, during our ſtay at *Paloonſhah*, quite ſtupified with fear leſt they ſhould be apprehended. We had, however, diſguiſed them in ſuch a manner that they eſcaped undiſcovered; and their ſpirits began now to revive. Although our preſent track was unknown to them, they were of great uſe to us in managing the *Tellinghys* whom we procured as guides from the *Rajah's* people. Having now proceeded about three miles, in a narrow defile between two ranges of hills, the road interſected by ravines, and in ſome parts ſtrongly ſtockaded, the hill fort of *Sunkurgherry* on a ſudden opened to our view. The diſtance was too great to enable me to judge of the nature of its works; but it had, on the whole, a pretty and romantic appearance. Leaving this place about three miles to the northward of our track, the country continued exceedingly wild, and our road was merely a ſlight foot path through thick *jungles*. The few villages that occurred were very poor, and ſituated moſtly in little ſpots of ground that had been cleared for cultivation. By noon we had travelled about eleven miles, when we came to a little ſpring, where finding alſo ſome ſhady trees, I halted, to enable the people, and cattle, to drink and refreſh. In about an hour I moved on, reſolving to proceed as far as poſſible, in hopes of reaching the Company's frontier on the enſuing day. Our road again continued between two ranges of hills, which gradually converged, until we came to the entrance of the ſtrongeſt paſs I ever beheld, called *Mooty Gautty*, which is likewiſe fortified. It conſiſts of a narrow paſſage, not more than twenty feet in width, and half a mile long; and the rock riſing perpendicularly on each ſide. Beyond this the paſſage diminiſhes to about ten feet; and a little ſtream of water, that iſſues from a rock on the eaſt ſide, flows through it. After proceeding about a hundred yards, through the narroweſt part of the defile, we came

to

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to a very ſteep aſcent, which led to the top of the paſs. Here I halted to collect my party, and then moved on, about two miles further, to a little rivulet near the village of *Jogaram*, where we encamped at 5 P. M. having marched a diſtance of twenty-five miles.

THE paſs we had come through forms one of the ſtrongeſt natural defences to *Paloonſhah;* and might be defended, by a few reſolute men, againſt any numbers. That of *Soondpilly Gündy*, which we ſhould have come through, had we continued our journey along the high road, is ſituated about four *coſs* to the eaſtward of *Mooty Gautty*, in the ſame range of hills.

THE little village near which we encamped, conſiſted only of five poor huts; and the inhabitants, who were as uncouth as any of the human ſpecies I ever met with, came out, to the number of about eleven, including women and children, to gaze at us. They were of the *Dair* caſt, and ſpoke the *Tellinghy* language, but, by living in this wild and retired part of the country, were totally ignorant of every thing beyond the concerns of their own little hamlet.

MAY 20th. AT day break we moved forward; and as the poſt of *Dommapett* was only ſeven miles diſtant, it behoved me to paſs it with caution. I collected therefore my party into a compact body; and we ſoon came in ſight of it. I found it conſiſted of a ſmall mud fort; from which about fifty armed men iſſued, as we approached, and attempted to ſtop us. I ſhewed them the *Rajah*'s paſs, to which, however, they paid no regard; but being now within five *coſs* of the Company's frontier, I was determined not to be plagued by them; and drawing up the *ſepoys* oppoſite to the party, I told the man in command, that I would not be detained. As the high road ran cloſe by this place, the *Rajah*'s guides were of no further

2 uſe

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uſe to us; and as thoſe we had brought from *Ewunpilly* undertook to lead us, I ordered the followers to move on with their baggage, and ſoon after followed myſelf with the *ſepoys*. Some parties ſtole into the *jungle* upon our flanks; but finding that we kept a conſtant watch over them, they did not attempt to fire upon us; and the *jungle* ſoon became ſo thick, that they were no longer able to make their way through it, and we loſt ſight of them.

I HAD now only one place more to paſs belonging to the *Paloonſhah Rajah*; a ſmall poſt called after him, *Aſhruſrow Pett*, where we arrived about 2 P. M. On our approach, the people all ran into the fort; but as they did not offer to moleſt us, we ſoon paſſed it; and arrived, about four o'clock, at the little village of *Dubagooram*, ſituated on the *Polaram Rajah's* frontier; and ſubject to the Britiſh government.

MAY 21ſt. WE had marched twenty-ſeven miles from our laſt encampment; and the heat, for the laſt two days, had harraſſed us a good deal; but being now arrived within the Company's territory, our troubles were nearly at an end. Our grain was exhauſted; and the village being too ſmall to afford us any, I moved about ſix miles to the village of *Tarpilly*, in the *Talook* of *Reddy*, where our very urgent wants were ſupplied. The inhabitants were a good deal ſurprized at our appearance, not conceiving by what road we could have come into that part of the country; but knowing that, although we were not attached to the *Madras* preſidency, we were ſubjects to the ſame government, they ſhewed us every attention. In two more eaſy marches we reached *Yerinagoodum*, a place in Colonel PEARSE's route from *Madras* to *Calcutta*, where my geographical labours terminated; and it being a road commonly frequented by the Britiſh troops, I found here on my arrival every refreſhment provided.

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May 24th. I proceeded to *Rajamundry*, and having recroſſed the *Godavery*, encamped under the north ſide of the fort. Here I had the firſt grateful ſight of an European countenance, which was productive of the moſt pleaſing ſenſations; for I had now been four months in the ſociety of the natives; through paths the moſt rugged; and in ſituations that required their utmoſt perſeverance to ſurmount. Their patience was frequently called forth, to enable them to ſubſiſt on the ſcanty proviſion, which they were neceſſitated to carry on their own ſhoulders, in a mountainous wilderneſs; and their greateſt fortitude was ſummoned to contend with ſavage hordes; to whoſe mercy had it been our fate to ſubmit, but little chance could have been expected of eſcaping with our lives. The due ſouthing in this journey was little more than eight degrees; but the circuitous windings we were obliged to take, to penetrate through the country, had increaſed the whole diſtance to 1125 Britiſh miles. The hard ſervice which the cattle had endured, had reduced them ſo low, that a fourth part were now too much exhauſted to recover, and periſhed. Two of my *Hirkarrahs* had been cut off by the *Goands;* which, with four followers attached to the *ſepoys*, was the whole loſs our party had ſuſtained: And conſidering the difficult nature of the ſervice, it was as little as could be expected. Indeed, the utter impoſſibility of any individual eſcaping, who might leave the party, had neceſſitated the utmoſt precaution and indefatigable exertions of the whole, for our mutual preſervation; and in many ſituations of difficulty, I was infinitely obliged to them for that zealous ſupport, and attachment, which were productive of ſo fortunate and ſucceſsful a termination to our toils.

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IV.

An Account of a new Species of DELPHINUS, An Inhabitant of the GANGES.

BY DOCTOR ROXBURGH.

LINNÆUS, in his arrangement of the animal kingdom, feparates the *Narval*, *Whales*, *Cacholets*, and *Dolphins*, comprifing the tribe of cetaceous animals, from the fifhes, and places them in the clafs *Mammalia*, becaufe they fuckle their young. This mode has been by fome deemed unnatural; but as it renders the arrangement methodical, eafy, and confpicuous, it is now generally followed.* The animals of the cetaceous order of the clafs *Mammalia*, to which belongs the fpecies now to be defcribed, are characterized by the following circumftances. They inhabit the ocean, or large rivers. They have no feet. They breathe through a fiftulous opening on the upper part of the head. They have two pectoral fins, and an horizontally flatted tail. They copulate and fuckle their young like quadrupeds; which they refemble alfo in the ftructure and ufe of their internal parts.

THE four genera compofing this order, are diftinguifhed chiefly by the teeth. That to which this new fpecies belongs, is denominated *Delphinus*; the effential character of the fpecies thereof is: They are furnifhed with bony teeth in each jaw; whereas the other three genera have either no teeth, or have them in one jaw only. GMELIN's laft edition of the *Syftema Naturæ* of LINNÆUS, mentions only four diftinct fpecies, viz. *Phocæna*,

* PENNANT, in his Britifh Zoology, makes a different arrangement: by which he places the *Cete* amongft the fifhes, diftributing the whole into three grand divifions. 1ft, Cetaceous-fifh. 2d, Cartilaginous-fifh. And 3d, Bony-fifh. But in the fubdivifion of this laft grand clafs, he follows LINNÆUS.

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Delphinus Gangeticus

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